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State Has New Parameters Now For Jailing Defendants

by Jerry Nowicky & Hannah Meisel Capitol News Illinois

Beginning Monday, Sept. 18, state courts in Illinois are prohibited from jailing individuals who are accused – but not convicted – of crimes simply because they cannot afford to post bail while they await trial.

Monetary bond was abolished in favor of a system that seeks to give judges authority to detain defendants accused of committing violent crimes based on their level of risk

to the community or of willful flight from prosecution.

The new system will require more robust hearings when someone's freedom is on the line, while aiming to avoid disruptive pre-trial incarceration if the accused person's offense was nonviolent and they are not deemed a public safety or flight risk.

After a highly contentious election cycle last year in which Republicans used the so-called Pretrial Fairness Act (PFA) to attack Democrats for being "soft on crime," a series of legal challenges from state's

attorneys and sheriffs delayed the law's implementation while the Illinois Supreme Court weighed its constitutionality. In a partisan 5-2 decision in July, the court's majority agreed that lawmaker-driven bail reform was constitutional, setting up a Sept. 18 statewide rollout for the law, more than nine months after the intended Jan. 1 start date.

State Sen. Robert Peters, D-Chicago, whose negotiations on the law made him a national figure – and a lightning rod for criticism – said at the time he knows the

public debate over bail reform isn't over, even if the legal battle is.

"Let me be clear: Cash bail delegitimizes criminal justice systems and transforms them into systems that violate public safety instead of upholding it," Peters said in a news release. "Illinois will not go back. We will only move forward with our goal of ensuring public safety for all Illinoisans, regardless of their background or financial position."

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Nearly 30 Gold Star Mission bicycle riders arrived at Litchfield High School just after 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, after the first 110 miles of a 500-mile ride to raise awareness and scholarship funds in the name of fallen military service members.

Journal-News Photo

They Ride In Memory Of Fallen Heroes

Gold Star Mission riders enjoyed Litchfield hospitality on Tuesday, Sept. 19, after the first leg of their 500-mile bicycle ride to honor fallen military heroes.

"These fallen men and women deserve this," Gold Star Mission volunteer and 40-year National Guard veteran Don Siltman said.

Gold Star Mission is a non-profit organization established in 2017 in Springfield to fund scholarships in the name of fallen military service members

to preserve their legacy.

On Tuesday, they pedaled the first 110 miles of a 500-mile ride with stops in communities such as Litchfield, Sparta, Harrisburg and Effingham. On the first day of the ride, they faced gusty winds while headed south to Litchfield.

Riders were escorted by Illinois State Police on motorcycles, and welcomed to Litchfield by the Litchfield Police Department, Litchfield Fire Department and Litchfield Ambulance Service.

There were also plenty of community well-wishers to offer their support, as well as those who traveled to Litchfield to support the mission.

Meet Jennifer Dahn of Decatur, who made the trip to Litchfield to surprise one of the Gold Star mothers.

"Vonda Rodgers is one of my good, good friends, and I'm here in memory of her son," Dahn said. "She didn't know I was coming today."

Continued on page 7A

Lake Drawdown Begins This Month In Hillsboro

by Ron Deabenderfer

Parks and Public Properties Commissioner Fred Butler advised those who have docks on the shores of the old city lake in Hillsboro that the water level there will drop significantly in the near future during the city council meeting Tuesday evening, Sept. 19. Because mandated work on the lake's spillway will begin soon, Butler expects the water level to drop four to five feet, which will leave some docks out of the water.

Butler warned residents that the first drawdown, made earlier in the summer, was to test the system only and affected the water level only a few inches. This time boats moored near the banks may be left "high and dry." He expects work to begin by the end of September.

All members of the council were present for the meeting as was local DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Regent Patty Whitworth. She and Councilwoman Kendra Wright used the Public Comment segment of the agenda to have Mayor Don Downs sign the proclamation celebrating American Constitution Week.

Finance Commissioner Patrick Ward received ap-

proval to pay August bills totalling \$551,851.36; much of the money will pay for planning work required for the proposed new sewer plant. Ward also said the total included a \$41,000 bill from Ameren for municipal electric services.

Tori O'Dell explained the need for street closures for upcoming Imagine Hillsboro events, including the Christmas Festival and Parade. Police Chief Randy Leetham said the requests were doable, so the council gave unanimous approval. Details will be forthcoming.

Nathan Wolf was chosen to be the new engineer/dispatcher in Fire Department headquarters upon recommendation of Public Safety Commissioner Tommy Justison, who cited Wolf's experience as a volunteer fireman as the primary reason to hire him. The vote was 4-0, with Butler abstaining.

Among other administrative actions was one amending the Ordinance Code (Section 31-3-1) covering enforcement of contractual rules for the campground; Butler made the motion to accept the changes recommended by City Attorney Chris Sherer. The council also agreed to put up for bids a lot at 123 South Douglas.

Continued on page 7A

Litchfield Approves Bids For Addition

by Mary (Galer) Herschelmann

Members of the Litchfield School Board approved several bid packages for the pre-Kindergarten addition at the new Litchfield Primary School (formerly J.D. Colt Elementary) as part of their regular monthly board meeting on Tuesday evening, Sept. 19, at the District Office.

Peter Ratermann of Poettker Construction said the bids were opened on Aug. 30 and then given a thorough scope review. The total cost of the project came in a little higher than they anticipated, so they went back over the bids with some cost-savings ideas. Ratermann said they were able to cut about \$100,000 off the project from bid day. He recommended the board approve all bids but

two, masonry and concrete, which came in higher than expected. Ratermann expects those bids to be ready at the next meeting.

Bid package number one for general trades was awarded to Interface Construction Company for \$551,901. Bid package number four for structural steel was awarded to Tri-County Welding and Fabrication, LLC for \$160,300. Bid package number five for roofing and sheet metal was awarded to J and F Chiatello Construction, Inc. for \$89,021. Bid package number six for windows and storefronts was awarded to Illini Glass Solutions doing business as Arrow Glass for \$52,545. Bid package number seven for metal studs, insulation, drywall and ACT was awarded to Hoelscher Interiors, Inc. for \$157,400.

Bid package number eight for flooring was awarded to Flooring Systems for \$45,630. Bid package number nine for painting was awarded to Morrissey Contracting Company for \$26,950. Bid package number ten for fire protection systems was awarded to Superior Fire Protection, Inc. for \$36,250. Bid packages number 11 and 12 for plumbing systems and mechanical systems were combined and awarded to Henson Robinson Company for \$287,000. Bid package number 13 for electrical systems was awarded to Camp Electric+Engineering for \$129,900. Bid package number 14 for sitework and site utilities was awarded to Ron Hunsche Excavating, Inc. for \$99,580.

Continued on page 7A



Construction crews work on the storm shelter as part of the new Litchfield Primary School construction project. Formerly JD Colt Elementary School, the new building will house pre-K through first grade students in the district. It's expected to be completed for the start of the 2024-2025 school year.

Journal-News/Dustin Jones

Weather forecast table with columns for date, temperature, weather icon, and precipitation chance.

Index table listing sections like Police, Classifieds, Family, Kids Page, Obituaries, and Sports with their respective page numbers.

Advertisement for sports featuring a photo of a soccer team and the text 'Grace Wins. See Sports on 1B for more.'

Journalisms

News About People and Events of Interest Throughout The County

Whether you bleed orange and black, purple and white or red and black, there are plenty of chances to show your school colors as it's time to celebrate Homecoming!

Litchfield and Nokomis high schools have been celebrating Homecoming throughout this week. The fun culminates with a parade on Friday. The Nokomis parade steps off at 2:45 p.m., while the one in Litchfield steps off at 4 p.m., followed by the annual street fair at the high school. The celebration culminates with home football games on Friday evening and the dance on Saturday.

In Hillsboro, Student Council is kicking off their Homecoming festivities with a community pep rally at Sawyer Field on Saturday evening, Sept. 23, beginning at 6 p.m. The powder puff football game will follow.

Whatever your favorite colors are, get out and show some community spirit this weekend!

And speaking of colors, the Litchfield Chamber of Commerce is hosting the annual Colors of Cancer 5K run this Saturday, Sept. 23, beginning at 8 a.m. On-site registration will be available at the new starting line, at the Litchfield city parking lot on the east side of Edwards and State Street. All proceeds will benefit the Montgomery County Cancer Association.

The weather is looking gorgeous this weekend for a tree walk at Bremer Sanctuary in Hillsboro, hosted by the University of Illinois Extension. Horticulture Educator Andrew Holsinger will lead the walk and teach about what trees can be utilized in the landscape and avoiding pitfalls of planting the wrong tree in the wrong site. The walk steps off from 10 to 11 a.m.

Royalty from throughout Montgomery County will be helping those in need this weekend as they host a community food drive on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 9 to 11 a.m.

Local royalty including the Montgomery County Fair, Old Settlers, Imagine Hillsboro Snow Queens, Witt Labor Day, Raymond Independence and Pana Tri-County, will be set up at a variety of locations collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations. They will be set up at IGA and Dollar General in Hillsboro, Dollar General in Schram City and Raymond and Litchfield Walmart.

Think you've got what it takes? Station 3 in Litchfield and Krunk It Up will be hosting a karaoke contest this Saturday, Sept. 23. Sign-ups start at 8 p.m. and the contest kicks off at 9 p.m. Round one is the 1980s, round two is TV/movie theme songs and round three is judges' choice. Cash prizes will be awarded.

The City of Coffeen is hosting its annual Fall Festival this weekend on Saturday, Sept. 23, beginning at 11 a.m. at Washington Park. Stop by for craft and food vendors, live entertainment, blacksmith demonstrations, horseshoe tournament, bags tournament, dessert walk, Bingo and more.

For more information, contact Robert Wessell at 217-534-6456, Jodi Summers at 217-827-2547 or City Hall at 217-534-2216.

Save the cooking for someone else! The Hillsboro Lions Club will be grilling seasoned pork chops this Friday, Sept. 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the CNB Bank and Trust parking lot. An \$8 meal includes a seasoned pork chop sandwich, chips and a drink. Sandwiches only are \$6.

The Hillsboro Sertoma Club is grilling out on Monday, Sept. 25, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., also at the parking lot of CNB Bank and Trust. On the menu will be pork patties and bratwurst. Meals are \$8 and sandwiches are \$6.

It's a celebration 175 years in the making as the Mt. Moriah Masonic Lodge celebrates a special anniversary this weekend. The public is invited to a special re-dedication ceremony this Saturday, Sept. 23, beginning at 2 p.m. with the Grand Lodge of Illinois officials presiding. Refreshments will also be served.

There's still plenty of time to sign up for league play at the Litchfield Bowling Alley. They are still looking for teams for mixed leagues on Mondays and Wednesdays and women for doubles on Thursday night. Contact the bowling alley for more information.

The Litchfield Tourism office hosted some special visitors this week all the way from Ottawa in Ontario, Canada. Joel and Cathy had been camping at Lake Lou Yaeger. They stopped in at the tourism office to pick up information for their journey along Route 66 in Illinois. Before departing Litchfield, they stopped at the Ariston Cafe for a horseshoe, which the couple had never heard of before.



Nearly 20 local fire departments and first responders lined the Frontage Road outside Farmersville on Sunday, Sept. 17, to pay their respects to longtime Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Chief Jeffrey Brown.

Photo courtesy of Sandy Webb

First Responders Pay Respects To Brown

by Mary (Galer) Herschelmann

"If you needed something, Jeff would be right there to help," said Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Chief Mike Webb. "He did a lot of things that he didn't ever want credit for."

Longtime Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Chief Jeff Brown died on Monday, Sept. 11, and was laid to rest at St. Martin's Cemetery in Farmersville on Sept. 17.

Funeral services for Brown were held in Divernon and the processional traveled to Farmersville to reach his final resting place. Nearly 20 local fire departments and first responders lined the Frontage Road outside Farmersville to pay their respects to Brown.

Departments participating in the special processional included Coffeen, Buffalo, Litchfield, Sherman, Nokomis, Rochester, Loami, Montgomery County EMA, Taylor Springs, Auburn, Raymond-Harvel, Girard, Witt, Fillmore, MABAS, Virden and Divernon.

Ladder trucks from Raymond-Harvel and Chatham hoisted a large American flag at the entrance to the cemetery and the Auburn department had a flag on an aerial truck along the processional.

Webb, who served with Brown on the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Department for 44 years said he could talk about their stories for hours.

"You never had to ask him twice what he meant," Webb said with a laugh. "He always said just what was on his mind."



Ladder trucks from the Raymond-Harvel and Chatham fire departments hoisted a giant American flag at the entrance to St. Martin's Cemetery in Farmersville, Brown's final resting place.

Photo courtesy of Sandy Webb

Brown joined the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Department in 1979, and Webb joined just a month later. Webb said he jokes that it only took Brown seven years to become chief and it took him 33 years, since he would follow Brown as leader of the department. Brown continued to serve on the Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District as a board member until a few months before his death.

"If it was worth doing, Jeff was going to make sure it was done right," Webb said.

Once they arrived at the cemetery, a special ceremony was held to honor Brown. Brian Byers read the Fireman's Prayer, and as the processional made its way into the cemetery, Brown's last call was read over the scanner by long-time dispatcher

Mary Shipman of Hillsboro. She retired earlier this year, but Brown wanted her to give his last call, and she did.

After the last call, Chad Millburg rang the firefighter's bell, which was borrowed from the Chatham Fire Department. The bell was rung three sets of three times, which signified the start of a shift, emergency calls and the end of the call.

"He was a servant right until the very end and was always looking out for people," Webb said.

Public Meetings

Panhandle School Board

Members of the Panhandle School Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on Monday evening, Sept. 25, at the Panhandle Learning Center in Raymond. The meeting will begin with a 6:45 p.m. budget hearing, followed by the regular meeting at 7 p.m.

Barbara Jo Whitworth, 44 Loving Wife And Mother



Barbara Jo (Hemken) Whitworth, 44, of New Douglas, died at 3:50 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2023, at HSHS St. John's Hospital in Springfield.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 25, at Perfetti-Assalley Funeral Home, located at 201 S. Main Street, Sorento, IL 62086. Funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 26, at the funeral home with the Rev. Daniel Hemken officiating. Interment will follow the ceremony at Sunnyside Cemetery in Sorento.

Mrs. Whitworth was born Feb. 10, 1979, in Litchfield, the daughter of Mary Jo (Randle) and Paul E. Hemken, Sr. She graduated from Greenville High School with the Class of 1997. She married Michael E. Whitworth on Sept. 29, 2012, at the Salem United Church of Christ in Alhambra, and they enjoyed nearly eleven years of marriage.

Mrs. Whitworth loved the water, camping, and four-wheeler riding, but her passion was music. Mrs. Whitworth especially enjoyed listening to 105.7 "The Point," where she won several call-in contests. Family and friends would often hear her call in as "Barb from New Douglas." Of all Mrs. Whitworth's interests, she devoted as much time as possible to her daughters and husband. She loved her family deeply, and she was loved by all who knew her.

Mrs. Whitworth is survived by her husband, Michael E. Whitworth of New Douglas; daughters, Cassandra Kenetzer of Livingston, Allison Kenetzer of Benld and Kirielle Kovaly of Livingston; parents, Mary Jo and Paul E. Hemken, Sr. of Sorento; brothers, Eldon (fiancée Karen) Hemken of Sorento and the Rev. Daniel (Kim) Hemken of Clay Center, KS; mother-in-law, Donna Lockhart of New Douglas; father-in-law, Danny Whitworth of Alhambra; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins; and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her infant twin brothers, James and Joseph Hemken; maternal grandparents, Kenny and Opal Randle; and paternal grandparents, Leslie and Dorothy Hemken.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Sorento Presbyterian Church, 109 W. Taylor Street, Sorento, IL 62086.

Please visit www.assalleyfuneralhomes.com to share memories of Mrs. Whitworth, or to offer condolences to her family.

Nokomis Plans Rummage Sale

City-wide Nokomis fall rummage sales will be held on Friday, Oct. 13 and Saturday, Oct. 14.

Residents wanting their sale information on the maps will need to have their information submitted by Thursday, Oct. 5. Information may be left at Nokomis City Hall or on Facebook.

Participants should include name, address, days/times of sale and list of sale items.

A reminder that the city requires yard sale permits. They are free and can be picked up at city hall. There is no cost to be included on the map.

The Nokomis Chamber of Commerce is covering the cost of printing the maps.

Church Plans Rummage Sale

Zion Lutheran Church Ladies Aid will have a rummage sale Friday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., located at 1301 N. State St. The Zion Lutheran PTL will also be holding a bake sale during the fundraiser.

A \$3 bag sale will be held on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Zion Lutheran School gym will be full of 56 tables of clothing and accessories of all sizes, housing and decorating items, toys, books, linens, jewelry, plants, small appliances and furniture. Attendees can look forward to many unusual items.



Doyle Library Painting Night

Doyle Public Library in Raymond will be hosting an October Paint Night on Friday, Oct. 13, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The paint night is open to participants of all ages and skill levels. Registration is \$25, and is paid directly to the artist on Oct. 13.

For more information or to sign up, call 217-229-4471 or visit doylepubliclibrary.org.

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ROUND 2: TV/MOVIE THEME SONG
ROUND 3: JUDGES CHOICE

Cash Prizes

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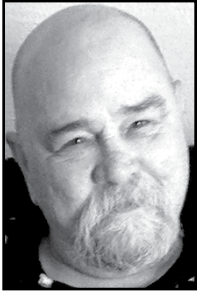
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Obituaries

Thomas W. Schipkowski, 74 Generous, Loving Father



Thomas William Schipkowski, 74, of Litchfield, formerly of Edwardsville, died on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023, at his residence.

No services are planned. Litchfield Family Funeral Service is assisting the family with arrangements.

Mr. Schipkowski was born Dec. 23, 1948, in Edwardsville, the son of Walter and Gladys Mae Brooks, and attended Edwardsville High School. In 1976, Mr. Schipkowski married Barbara Bower in Collinsville, and went on to have three children and three grandchildren.

Mr. Schipkowski had an adventurous spirit. He enjoyed music, photography, Harley-Davidson motorcycles, Corvette cars and the occasional practical joke. In his earlier years before attending classes at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, he spent time exploring Florida, California, and the Appalachian Trail in the Great Smoky Mountains.

Mr. Schipkowski was a provider by nature, was quick to lend a helping hand, and went above and beyond to make sure his family was comfortable and supported. As a lineman and troubleshooter for over 35 years at Illinois Power Company, now Ameren Illinois, he was known for having an outstanding work ethic and being an expert in his work.

He worked tirelessly to guarantee his family experienced memorable vacations and loving holidays, as well as nurtured opportunities for his kids' future. As a reliable maker and creator, Mr. Schipkowski could build a barn, fix a car, and remodel a kitchen from the ground up, among many other things.

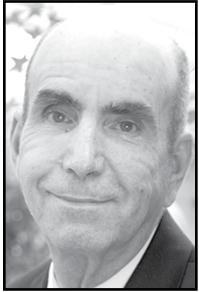
Knowing his sons' passion for playing outside and wanting the best for them, Mr. Schipkowski installed impressive basketball and sand volleyball courts at the family's Edwardsville property for his boys to enjoy as they grew up. He was a generous father. As tough as Mr. Schipkowski was, he also had a kind and gentle character. He loved animals, especially dogs, and was a doting, devoted grandfather.

In retirement, he refined his golf game, spent precious time with his three beloved grandkids and spoiled his granddads.

Mr. Schipkowski was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his loving wife, Barb of Litchfield; sons Joshua (Sara) Schipkowski of St. Louis, MO, Nathan Schipkowski of Litchfield and Jason (Kitty) Schipkowski of St. Louis, MO; and three grandchildren Cash, Waylon and Harlan; siblings, Nancy Carter of Edwardsville, Carla and Jim Bollinger of Huntley, Alan and Diane Schipkowski of Crossville, TN, Mark Schipkowski and Steve Horvath of St. Peters, MO, Michael and Lise Schipkowski of Glen Carbon and Jeffrey and Karen Schipkowski of Edwardsville; and several nieces and nephews.

Donations in Tom's honor may be made to Paws Care, located in Montgomery County, at www.pawscare.org

Dave A. Jones, 66 Litchfield Class Of 1975



David "Dave" Allan Jones, 66, of Litchfield, died on Monday, Sept. 18, 2023, at Bria of Mascoutah Nursing Home in Mascoutah.

A private celebration of life will be held at a later date. Plummer Funeral Home in Litchfield is assisting the family with arrangements.

He was born Dec. 11, 1956, in Litchfield, the son of the late Donald L. and Betty L. (Wright) Jones. He was a graduate of Litchfield High School with the class of 1975.

Mr. Jones was a roofer for the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers Local 112 in Springfield. He enjoyed raising horses in his earlier years, along with drag boat racing, boating, enjoying a wide variety of music, cheering on the Florida Gators football team and spending time with his friends and family. His final months were spent accepting Jesus with his son and daughter-in-law by his side.

He is survived by his son Adam (Becky) Jones of St. Jacob; sister Donna (Deck) Major of Litchfield; and nephews Bryan (Andrea) Jenkins of South Lyon, MI and Kyle (Brittany) Jenkins of Edwardsville.

Mr. Jones was preceded in death by his parents. To sign the online register book, light a virtual candle, or for more information, please visit www.plummerfuneralservices.com.

Allen G. Korte, 67 Ties To Local Area



Allen G. Korte, 67, of Highland, died Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023, at Saint Elizabeth Hospital in O'Fallon.

Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 22, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, and from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland. Funeral Service will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23, at St. Paul Catholic Church in Highland. Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery in Pierron. The Rev. Fr. Pat G. Jakel, pastor at St. Paul Catholic Church, officiating.

Mr. Korte was born on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 1955, in Highland, IL, the son of the late Vincent and Linette (nee Ganter) Korte. He grew up on a farm northeast of Pierron, and attended school in Highland and worked on the family dairy farm. He lived and worked in Vandalia and then in Greenville, where he was a wood worker. In 1999, he moved to Highland and worked for C.C.R.C. in Breese. Mr. Korte moved to a community home in Highland in 1999, and four years ago to Clinton Manor, in New Baden. Socializing and connecting with people and amazing memory. He enjoyed putting together puzzles, coloring, playing bingo, and reading.

He was a member of Saint Paul Catholic Church in Highland. He is survived by his siblings, brothers Thomas V. of Highland, Edwin J. (Sandra) of Greenville, Dennis R. (Cynthia) of Pocahontas and Wayne R. (Linda) Korte of Pocahontas; nephews Brent A. (Heather) Korte of Highland, Ryan T. (Kelly) Korte of Colorado Springs, CO, Chad M. (Jenny) Korte of Grosse Ile, MI, Kent J. (Traci) Korte of Pocahontas and Kyle R. (Emily) Korte of Pocahontas; nieces Dena L. (Scott) Deibert of Ursa and Nicole A. (Jake) Zambaldi of Maryville; nephew-in-law Carl Plage of Pocahontas; and many great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, father Vincent A. Korte on Feb. 27, 1995, and mother Linette R. Korte on Oct. 18, 2013; nephew Timothy J. Korte on Dec. 18, 1997; niece Karla M. Plage on Jan. 16, 2021; and sister-in-law Marion E. Korte on Feb. 18, 2021.

Memorial contributions may be made to Community Link in Breese.

Daniel J. Alonzo, 64 U.S. Army Veteran



Daniel Joseph Alonzo, 64, of Witt, died at 4:52 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2023, at Hillsboro Area Hospital.

Cremation rites were accorded, and a memorial service will be held Friday, Sept. 22, at 9 a.m. at the Hillsboro Free Methodist Church. Burial will follow at 12 p.m. at Camp Butler Cemetery in Springfield, where military rites will be accorded. The Rev. Randy Sands of the Hillsboro Free Methodist Church will be officiating. Bass Patton Dean Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Mr. Alonzo was born May 30, 1959, in St. Louis, MO, to the late Louis and Shirley (Fore) Alonzo. He married Mary Mills on Dec. 22, 1989, and she preceded him in death in 2019. He later married Dorothy (Raines) Alonzo on Oct. 15, 2020, and she survives.

He served his country in the United States Army and spent six years stationed overseas in Germany. Mr. Alonzo worked as a factory laborer and handyman throughout his life, and loved fishing, playing on the computer and watching the History Channel. He lived in Columbia, MO, before moving east to the local area, first Staunton and later Hillsboro and Witt.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Alonzo is survived by his three daughters, Tia and Melisa Alonzo of Hillsboro and Kimberly Alonzo of Imperial City, MO; grandchildren Damien, Gabriella, Ariahna and Hunter; and siblings Billy and Raymond Alonzo, Louise Alonzo Hendren and Patti Tapley.

He was preceded in death by his parents and wife, Mary. Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project or to the Free Methodist Church of Hillsboro.

Condolences may be left online at basspattondeanfh.com

Dorothy M. Deibert, 91 Local Ties To Area



Dorothy M. Deibert, age 91 of Highland, died Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 21, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 21, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, with the Rev. William E. Kapp, pastor of the Evangelical United Church of Christ in Highland, officiating. Interment will be at Highland City Cemetery in Highland.

Mrs. Deibert was born on Sunday, Feb. 7, 1932, in Highland, the daughter of Orville and Pearl (nee Maurer) Strebel. She was a 1950 graduate of Highland High School. On Saturday, Dec. 12, 1959, she married Clarence W. Deibert at E & R Church, Grantfork, Illinois, and he preceded her in death on Saturday, May 28, 2016.

She worked at the Brown Shoe Company office, Kayser Drug Store, *Belleville Journal* newspaper and Pamida in Belleville. After her marriage, she stayed at home with her children and helped her husband with the farm they had purchased. She was a volunteer at St. Joseph Hospital, a Madison County election judge and a member of Evangelical United Church of Christ.

Mrs. Deibert enjoyed bowling, doing needlepoint and reading books by John Grisham and Sidney Sheldon. She especially enjoyed the time she spent walking with her long-time friend, Carol Hundsdorfer.

Mrs. Deibert is survived by her children, daughter Nancy A. (Stephen) Casper of Highland and sons James S. Deibert of Trenton and John D. (significant other Jennifer Pfister) Deibert of Highland; grandchildren Daniel T. (significant other Justine Ulrich) Deibert of St. Louis, MO, Jeremy S. (significant other Tami Jakel) Goebel of Highland, Jennifer M. Morstain of Alton, Laura A. (Jason) Reiling of Highland, Andrew S. (significant other Sheri Allen) Casper of Highland and Emily M. (significant other Adam Elliott) Casper of Pocahontas; great-grandchildren Abigail L. Casper of Highland, Allison E. Reiling of Highland, Kaleigh E. Casper of Highland, Laynei A. Casper of Highland and Ruby M. Goebel.

She was preceded in death by her father Orville J. Strebel on Dec. 24, 1988, mother Pearl L. (nee Maurer) Strebel on May 3, 2009, husband Clarence W. "Wuzzey" Deibert on May 28, 2016, her first husband Dennis P. Haller on Sept. 2, 1956, daughter-in-law Maria (nee Steinman) Deibert on Aug. 3, 2015, and sister Judith A. Ernst on Nov. 18, 2008.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Evangelical United Church of Christ in Highland.

John M. Patton, 68 Attended Hillsboro Schools



John M. Patton, 68, of Springfield, died on Thursday, Sept. 14, at Memorial Hospital in Springfield.

Graveside services were held on Wednesday, Sept. 20, at Memorial Park Cemetery in Staunton. The Rev. Stephen Thompson officiated the service. Staab Funeral Home assisted the family.

Mr. Patton was born on April 17, 1955 in Staunton to the late Peter J. and Rosemary (Baumann) Patton.

He attended Hillsboro schools until transferring to a military academy for his last two years of high school. A natural athlete when he attended Hillsboro schools, he was a starter on the Hillsboro Junior High School eighth grade basketball team that played in the IESA state tournament in 1969.

While in town, the Patton family operated Patton Funeral Home in Hillsboro (now Bass Patton Dean Funeral Home) at the corner of South Main and West Tremont. The family still supports the Patton Memorial Scholarship given to Hillsboro High School graduates planning to attend Lincoln Land Community College through the Lincoln Land Community College Foundation.

Mr. Patton is survived by three sisters, Penny (Mike) Noel of Chesterfield, MO, Connie Patton Stelbrink of Springfield and Michelle "Mickey" (Brian) Lauer of Springfield; two nieces, Allie Brent of Jacksonville, FL and Angela (Ben) Christanson of Chesterfield, MO; one nephew, Alex Noel of Chesterfield, MO; and several great-nieces and great-nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, George S. Patton.

Memorial contributions may be made to Helping Hands of Springfield.

Darline E. Tosetti, 94 Former Country Club President



Darline Elizabeth Tosetti, 94, of Nokomis, died on Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2023 at her home in Nokomis.

Services will begin at 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24, at Stiehl Dawson Funeral Home in Nokomis with Father Michael Meinhart presiding. Visitation will be held from 4-5 p.m. prior to the funeral service.

Mrs. Tosetti was born on July 6, 1929, in Morrisonville, to Leland "Lee" and Sadie (Meyer) Lamb. She attended Morrisonville schools and graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in physical education. She came to Nokomis to teach and there met her future husband, James Tosetti. They were married on Dec. 12, 1952, at St. Louis Church in Nokomis, and he preceded her in death on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, 1998.

She taught in the Morrisonville School District for most of her career. She was extremely active in many civic activities, having served on the boards of Hillsboro Area Hospital, Nokomis Ambulance Service and BRS Museum. She was a member of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority for more than 70 years and had been a member of the Hillsboro Country Club for many years, where she had served as president, volunteered at numerous golfing events and played many games with friends and family. Anyone who knew her knew that she had three hobbies: golf, cards and yelling bingo!

She is survived by many nieces and nephews from across the USA.

In addition to her parents and husband she was preceded in death by a sister, Deloris Kalinoski of California; nephews, Dr. James Tosetti of Oregon and Terry Kalinoski of Kentucky; nieces, Barbara (Tosetti) Selvaggio of Springfield and Anita (Tosetti) Johnson of Wisconsin.

Memorials may be given to St. Louis School in Nokomis or Paws Care. Online condolences can be left at stiehl-dawsonfh.com.

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Jill L. Dugan, 54 Loving Wife And Mother



Jill Lynn Dugan, 54, of Mulberry Grove, died Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, in St. Louis, MO, surrounded by loving family and friends.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 22, at the First Church of Christ, located at 405 N. Maple St. in Mulberry Grove. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 23, at the church, with the Rev. Randy Whitehead officiating. Burial will take place at Maxey Cemetery in Smithboro, following the funeral service. Assalley-Young Funeral Home in Greenville is assisting the family.

Mrs. Dugan was born Dec. 12, 1968, in Greenville, the daughter of Gary L. and Dianne L. (Wilson) Siebert of Mulberry Grove. She married Randall David Dugan, on April 14, 1990, in Mulberry Grove, and had been married for 33 blessed years.

A graduate of Mulberry Grove High School with the class of 1987, she worked for Watsons and DeMoulin Brothers and Company before beginning a job at the *Bond and Fayette County Shopper*, where she worked as an ad creator for 20 years. Preceding her job helping others at the Bond County Senior Center, she also worked as an archivist at the Bass-Mollet facility in Greenville.

Mrs. Dugan was a loving wife, mother and grandma. With a smile that lit up an entire room, she blessed her world with a wonderful sense of happiness, home, family and community. She greatly enjoyed helping others, going for daily walks outside, reading and spending time with friends and loved ones. Always ensuring that her large family was healthy and fulfilled brought her the most joy. Mrs. Dugan shared her heart and happiness with everyone she came in contact with and this world was truly a better place with her in it.

She is survived by her parents, Gary Siebert and Dianne Siebert of Mulberry Grove; her husband, Randy Dugan; daughters Megan (William) Kleiboeker of Hoffman, Kelsey (Nick) Jarden of Gillespie and Katelyn Dugan of Mulberry Grove; grandchildren Emily, Logan, Aiden and Klay; brother Donnie (Tammie) Siebert of Pocahontas; mother-in-law, Ruth Dugan of Mulberry Grove; and several brothers and sisters-in-law and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father-in-law, David Dugan.

In Mrs. Dugan's memory, the family asks that all donations please be given to the Randy and Jill Dugan Benefit Fund, c/o FNB Community Bank, PO Box 340, Mulberry Grove, IL 62262, in lieu of flowers, plants, and other gifts.

Visit www.assalleyfuneralhomes.com to share memories or offer condolences to the family.

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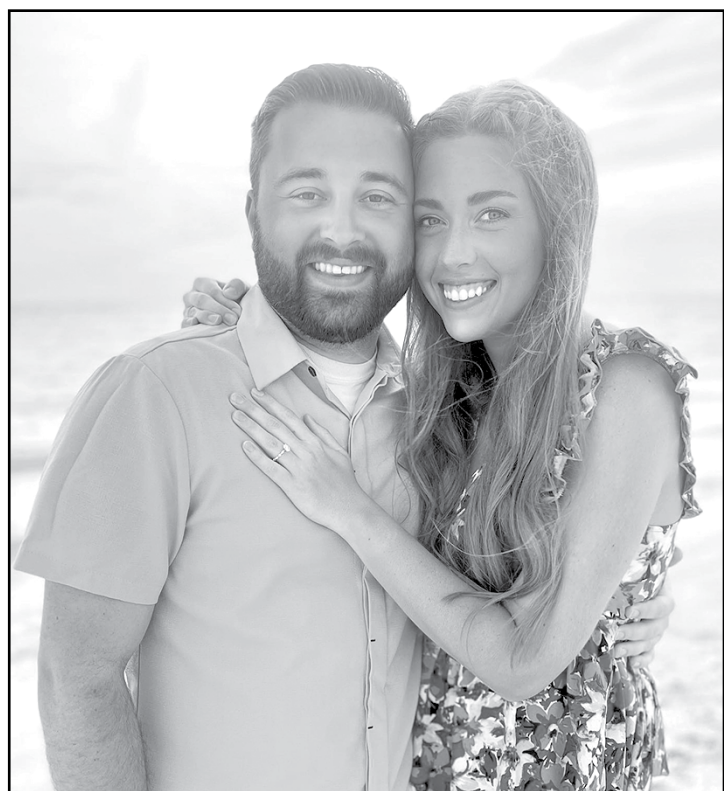
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Cox And Pavolka Plan Summer 2024 Wedding

Karmyn Cox and Bryce Pavolka, both of Nokomis, announce their engagement and upcoming wedding.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Bruce and Kendra Cox of Witt. A 2016 graduate of Nokomis High School, she earned her bachelor's degree in 2020 at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and her master's degree in 2022 from Indiana State University.

She is currently employed as a speech language pathologist for Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, and is just beginning a new role as a speech and language therapist in the Nokomis School District for the NPT Special Education Cooperative.

Her future husband is the son of Kirk and Michele Pavolka of Nokomis. A 2014 graduate of Nokomis High School, he graduated from Lincoln Land Community College in 2016 and SNHU in 2023. He is currently em-

ployed as a high school history and government teacher at Nokomis High School.

After five and a half years of dating, Pavolka surprised Cox with their most favorite memory yet. After speaking with her parents to ask for her hand, Pavolka proposed on the sand of Bradenton Beach, FL on May 30, 2023.

The couple plan to marry in front of all of their family and friends on July 5, 2024 during the Independence Day weekend. They have recently selected a beautiful venue in Crawfordsville, IN, which will accommodate to all of their creative, celebratory ideas.

They are very excited for their "kids" - Beesly (a 15-pound female Cavapoo) and Banner (a 25-pound male mini Australian Shepherd) - to join them in walking down the aisle.

The couple is happily in full swing of planning their special day.

Doyle Public Library To Host Saturday Story Hour Program

Doyle Public Library in Raymond is hosting a story hour program this Saturday, Sept. 23, beginning at 10 a.m.

The free program is suitable for children ages zero to six-years-old. Everyone

is welcome to come and join the fun.

For more information about programs at Doyle, check out their website at www.doylepubliclibrary.org.

Births

Alexis Cromly-Brewer and Drew Shidle of Raymond announce the birth of their son, Connor Elroy Shidle, born at 4:48 p.m. on Sept. 15, 2023, at HSHS St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield. He weighed 5 lbs., 4 ozs., and measured 19.5 ins. long.

Chloe S. Knaus-Rea and Dominic D. Pugliese announce the birth of their daughter, Bexley Michelle Pugliese, born at 5:27 a.m. on Sept. 19, 2023, at HSHS St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield. She weighed 8 lbs., and measured 21 ins. long.

Maternal grandmother is Melanie M. Roberts. Paternal grandparents are Bobbi Jo Kuhl and Freddy J. Pugliese. Paternal great-grandparents are Kathy Pugliese of Florida and Dave Kuhl of Coffeen.

Animal Medical Center To Sell Popcorn Oct. 6

Animal Medical Center, located at 321 W. Columbian Blvd. S. in Litchfield, is hosting its annual Popcorn Day on Friday, Oct. 6.

The veterinary clinic will be selling popcorn from Creekstone Kettleworks in

Raymond during regular business hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the Litchfield Angel Fund to help take care of animals.

For more information, visit www.amclitchfield.com.

Let's Grow Fillmore's Fall Festival On Oct. 14

Let's Grow Fillmore will be hosting a community Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 14, in up town Fillmore.

The event will feature a cornhole tournament, live music, raffles and food. Sign ups for the cornhole tournament begin at 11 a.m. The cost is \$10 per participant.

The Cody Ryan Band will be playing from 3 to 6 p.m.

Let's Grow Fillmore is a local not for profit organization dedicated to growing and revitalizing Fillmore for the future through charity and benevolence. Proceeds from the event will benefit the organization's future initiatives.

Kleinik Family Celebrates 95th Reunion In Greenville

The Kleinik family held their 95th family reunion on Sunday, Aug. 27 at the Greenville Patriots' Park. There were 12 members present, and they enjoyed a potluck. The blessing was given by Melissa Elam.

At 89-years-old, Delila Beckman was the oldest member in attendance. The one who traveled the farthest was Dean Kleinik from Toledo.

Officers retained for 2024 were President Kevin Elam,

Vice President Dean Kleinik and Secretary/Treasurer Carol Herrin.

Those in attendance included Joyce Pendlay of Coffeen, Kevin and Melissa Elam, Brian Elam and Marilyn Torbeck all of Vandalia, Betty Clinton of Odin and Evelyn and Carol Herrin of Greenville.



Smith, Hockett Plan Autumn 2027 Wedding

Summer Lee Smith of Hillsboro and Nicholas Scott Hockett of Irving announce their engagement and upcoming wedding.

A 2023 graduate of Hillsboro High School, the bride-to-be is the daughter of Rob and Laura Smith of Hillsboro. She is currently a full-time nursing student at Lincoln Land Community College and plans to become a nurse practitioner someday.

Her future husband is also a 2023 graduate of Hill-

sboro High School. The son of Jackie Naugle and Jason Hockett of Irving, he is currently a full-time masonry and construction worker with AJWD in Hillsboro. He plans someday to own his own masonry and tuckpointing company.

Junior high school sweethearts, the couple plan to marry at The Hangar in Greenville on Oct. 2, 2027, which marks the ten-year anniversary since they started dating.



Story Hour Program Resumes In Hillsboro

The story hour program resumed at the Hillsboro Area Public Library on Mondays in September. Four youngsters participated in an apple-themed program on Monday afternoon, Sept. 18. Library Director Laura Naugle read the Dr. Seuss favorite, *Ten Apples Up On Top* and children made an apple craft. Pictured above, clockwise from the bottom are Emmy Fursov, Library Director Laura Naugle, Graysen Hertel, Denise Roy, Brayden Hertel and Charley Herschelmann.

Story hour for preschool and elementary students is held each Monday from 4 to 4:30 p.m. at the library. The next one will be held Monday, Sept. 25, with a "When I Grow Up" theme.

Journal-News Photo

HEARING NOTICE (35 ILCS 200/18-80)

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District, Inc.

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Farmersville-Waggoner Fire Protection District, Inc. for 2024 will be held on October 3, 2023 at 6:00 pm at Farmersville Village Hall at 504 Nobbe St., Farmersville, Il. 62533.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Bob Wagahoff, 208 Sedentop, Farmersville, Il 62533, 217-871-2112.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2022 were \$98,395.00. The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2023 are \$132,139.00. This represents a 34.29% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2022 were 00. The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2023 are 00. This represents a 0% over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2022 were \$98,395.00.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2023 are \$132,139.00. This represents a 34.29% over the previous year.



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Klaira Sadiku, Kylan Smith Win Cutest Baby Contest

Some of the youngest participants in this year's Raymond Celebration got their chance to shine on Saturday evening, Sept. 16, as the winners of the Cutest Baby Contest were announced. Monetary voting for contestants was held prior to and during this year's festivities. 2022 Miss Independence Kasandra Reif announced that the winners were Klaira Sadiku and Kylan Smith and 2022 Junior Miss Independence Josie Beeler presented each contestant with a teddy bear. Pictured above, from the left are 2022 Miss Independence Kasandra Reif, 2022 Junior Miss Independence Josie Beeler, Tony and Ashley Walch with their children, Ayden, Austyn and Amelya; Elise Knipfer with her mom, Callie Smith; Klaira Sadiku with her parents, Brooke and Tosi Sadiku; Kylan Smith with his parents, Devyn Gaskin and Niles Smith; Jordynne Carron with her parents, Jeremy and Jennifer Carron; and Adaline House with her parents, Devan House and Kylee Hardt.

Journal-News Photo



Hillsboro Mayor Don Downs signed a proclamation for Constitution Week with members of the Christiana Tillson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. From the left are Regent Patty Whitworth, Mayor Don Downs and Treasurer Kendra Wright.

DAR Chapter Celebrates Constitution Week

Members of the Christiana Tillson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated Constitution Week in September with proclamations signed by both the mayors of Hillsboro and Litchfield.

Each year, Constitution Week is celebrated Sept. 17-23 to mark when the United States Constitution was signed in Philadelphia on Sept. 17, 1787.

Constitution Week is designed to "reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained."

"The United States Constitution has proven itself the most marvelously elastic compilation of rules of government ever written," said President Franklin D.

Roosevelt.

In 1955, President Dwight Eisenhower proclaimed the first Constitution Week in August of that year.

The U.S. Constitution is the oldest constitution still in active use in the world today, but it was the second governing document of the United States of America. The first plan of national government was the Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union, which was drawn up in 1777 and provided only for a loosely-joined group of states with very little powers to the central government. The Articles of Confederation were replaced by the Constitution, signed in 1787 and adopted in 1789.

At only 4,444 words, it is the oldest and shortest written constitution of any major government in the world today.

It was hand-penned by Jacob Shallus, a Pennsylv-



Litchfield Mayor Steve Dougherty signed a proclamation for Constitution Week with members of the Christiana Tillson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. From the left are Dr. Amy Currie-Mullins, Mayor Steve Dougherty and Jennifer Reid-Baughner.

Journal-News Photo

vania General Assembly clerk. Several words use older, alternative spellings, like "chuse," defence," "controul" and "labour," but oddly enough, the most obvious misspelling is "Pensylvania" above the signers from that state.

Not only does the document lay out how the three branches of the federal government work, each providing checks and balances on the others, it is also the cornerstone of freedom and many of its amendments protect the personal rights of every American.

The Constitution protects Americans from abuse of power by the federal government remarkably well, but does so without the use of words and phrases that many Americans consider constitutional. One will not find the word "democracy" in the U.S. Constitution, nor the phrases "innocent until

proven guilty," "presumption of innocence," or "jury of my peers," but those are many of the rights protected by the Fifth Amendment which states that no person shall be "deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law."

The purpose of the Constitution Week celebration is to emphasize citizens' responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution, informing people that it is the basis for America's great heritage and the foundation for our way of life, and encourage the study of the historical events which led to the framing of the Constitution in September 1787.

In addition to the special recognition, the DAR has erected a structure that is built in tribute, named the DAR Constitution Hall, which opened in 1929 as a performing arts center.

Nokomis Omicron Delta To Raffle Themed Baskets

Members of Omicron Delta met at the Nokomis City Hall on Tuesday, Sept. 12, with eight members present, five absent and one member on leave of absence.

The section has received an updated roster from international, showing who has paid dues and who has not. Those to progress are Heather Hampton+Knodle and Jane Johnson, with the progression at a later meeting. The section received a thank you note from Haley Engelman for the scholarship that she received from the sorority.

The treasurer reported on income and expenses for the summer, with \$6537.07 in checking and \$1861.95 in savings. The treasurer's report was approved.

The executive board did not meet, but they will be meeting in October.

For the service project in October, the sorority is making themed baskets to be raffled at the Nokomis Rehabilitation Center. The proceeds will go to their activity fund. Anyone wanting to make one is encouraged to do so. The limit will be around \$25.

The sorority received a pin and booklets for the new pledge, Janna Dammernann. There was no report from the courtesy correspondent. The social will be the fall banquet combined with the October meeting on either Oct. 10 or Oct. 24.

In Ways and Means, the section decided to do the gift card raffle. Jill Quattlander motioned to give the money to the Nokomis Christian Missions, seconded by Kathy Gaffney, and the motion carried. They plan to have everything ready at the next meeting.

The June meeting was published in the local paper, and there was no old business to report.

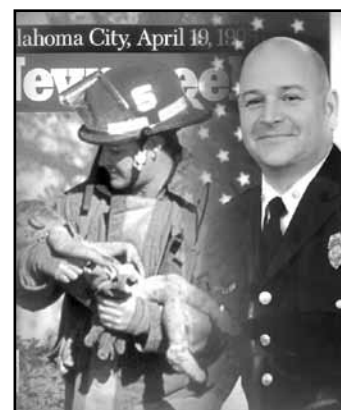
Under new business, Jane Johnson represented Omicron Delta at the meeting of the Nokomis Community Event Group. They are hosting the Snowkomis on Dec. 8-9. There was much discussion as to what the sorority could do as a group to participate. It was suggested to sponsor an hourly drawing. The section will meet later to discuss and finalize plans.

Oklahoma Firefighter To Speak In Hillsboro

The Montgomery County Health Department is bringing a special program to Hillsboro on Tuesday evening, Oct. 24.

Chris Fields, a former member of the Oklahoma City Fire Department, will make a presentation from 6 to 8 p.m. at The Event Center of Montgomery County in Taylor Springs.

The image of Fields, at right, holding the body of one-year-old Baylee Almon has become an iconic symbol of the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. Fields now dedicates his life to speaking with other first responders about the brutal realities of a life spent responding to citizens



Chris Fields

in their darkest hours.

Admission is free, and the program is open to the public. Refreshments will be provided.

DAR Chapter Changes Monthly Meeting Date

Members of the Christiana Tillson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution have voted to move their regular monthly meetings to the last Tuesday of each month.

Their next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 26, beginning at 6 p.m. in the meeting room at Hillsboro Area Public Library.

Members will be finalizing plans for the annual trivia

night fundraiser on Nov. 11.

In addition, any member wishing to purchase a DAR shirt may contact Tammy White at Tee Shirts, Ink in downtown Hillsboro. Shirts will be royal blue with yellow writing and members may choose their own style of shirt. For more information or to place a shirt order, contact Tee Shirts, Ink at 217-532-5955.

Litchfield Church Will Celebrate Anniversary

The Christian Church of Litchfield located at 131 Yaeger Lake Trail, will celebrate their 50th anniversary with a special service on Sunday, Oct. 1, beginning at 6 p.m.

Members past and present, along with friends from the community are invited to attend as they celebrate God's faithfulness. The celebration will include special music, testimonies, scripture reading, sharing of the Lord's Supper and prayers of blessing and unity. There will also be a history display and photo booth area available.

The church was organized

in 1973 by four families when they found no independent Christian church in Litchfield.

The new congregation held worship services at Monical's Pizza (now Pizza Man) until a permanent building was constructed. The new building was dedicated in 1977. In the summer of 1991, a new sanctuary was completed that enabled the old building to be converted into classrooms and a fellowship hall. The new classroom addition was dedicated in April of 2008.

St. Francis Auxiliary To Host Drive-Thru Meal In October

The HSHS St. Francis Hospital Auxiliary will sponsor its sixth and final drive-thru dinner on Monday, Oct. 9 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. to support the auxiliary's scholarship fund.

The meal will feature a grilled center cut pork chop, baked potato, southern style green beans and a roll, all prepared by Nelson's Catering, with a homemade dessert provided by auxiliary bakers. The cost per meal is \$14.

Dinners must be ordered by Oct. 2. Orders can be placed online at nelsonscatering.com/hshs-st-francishospital, in the hospital gift shop or by contacting Jeanne Banovic at 217-273-6716 or Nancy Hyam at 217-254-

4442. The Oct. 9 drive-thru dinner pickup will take place in front of the main hospital entrance.

The auxiliary scholarship fund provides annual awards to students who reside principally in Montgomery or Macoupin counties, have completed one year of college and are pursuing degrees or diplomas in health-related occupations.

The auxiliary thanks all who have supported the summer series of drive-thru dinners in support of the scholarship fund.

For more information about HSHS St. Francis Hospital, visit stfrancis-litchfield.org.

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Pictured above, the 53 members of the Litchfield class of 1973 in attendance at the 50th reunion. Sitting on ground are Kevin Thacker and Jeff Rull. In the front, from the left, Jim Klaustermeier (spouse), Mike Marit, Diane Lucykow Youngblood, Liz Dressen Klaustermeier (seated), Donna Tinsman Bradburn (kneeling), Mary Oller Logsdon, Sonja Lewis Terrell, Martha Spalding Stewart, Susan Heuchert, Sally Heitzman Craig, Martha Crouch Dollins, LaNell Bayler, Debbie Logsdon White, Sue Ann King Mendoza, Rosalynn Bundy Scheldt, Diane Shaw Summers, Cindy Robinson Watters, Franz Todt, Brian Talley and Lon Brauer. In the middle row, Dean Saathoff, Terry Steelman Wardell, Bonnie Wolff Furman, Julie Humphrey Nimmons, Linda Faris Stoecker, Kathy Boedecker Painter, Shawnee Tefteller, Cindy Watts Faris, Ken Nimmons, Danny Titsworth, Pam Johnston Norris, Karen Ulrich Kruse, Theresa Poppenhouse Behme, Linda Reller, Larry White, Joe Rosenthal, Denis Dees, Dennis Schwabe, Greg Watters, Kevan Summers, Warren Thacker and Harlan Hofeling. In the back, Alan Titsworth, Ron Davis, Randy Prange, Roger Heltsley, Bill Faris, Bert Vancauwelaert, Ron Norris, Doug Carney, Dale Marfell, Robert Allen and Stanley Voyles.

Litchfield Class Of 1973 Celebrates 50th Anniversary

More than 53 members of Litchfield High School class of 1973 reunited for their 50th class reunion on Sept. 8 to 9. Classmates and some of their spouses participated in several activities. On Friday, Sept. 8, they toured the new Litchfield Elementary School, and later, met up

with old friends at Walton Park to enjoy the last summer concert of the season. Saturday options included a golf outing, a visit to the Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center, and a dinner of fried chicken, roast beef, potatoes, green beans, broccoli and cauliflower, and

salad was served at the Litchfield Country Club. Music during the evening was from a collection of number one hits from 1969 to 1973, provided by classmate, Robert Allen.

A memorial tree with photos remembering deceased classmates was displayed along with yearbooks and

other memorabilia. The occasion was marked with a decorated cake with purple and white icing.

Many fond and funny memories were recalled and made during the weekend.

The class remembers those who have left too soon: Janet Renken, Dale Odle, Har-

old Vollmer, Mark Prange, Stanley Thompson, Dennis Wilson, Gary Price, Gary Meyer, Jimmy Logsdon, Paul Wood, Tim White, Paul Bryant, Mike Smith, Roger Dworsack, Terry Taylor, Eugene Greenwood, Darrell Williams, Steve Lloyd, Debbie Smith Whitlock, Kaye Jett

Kean, Roy Bates, Kerry Elam, Randy Partridge, Frank Komor, Scott Ogden, Kim Cloyd Jensen, Greg Beiermann, Lee Canter, Rick Hemken, Pat Crosley Wilson, Mary Wilson Burris, Jerry Bradburn, Jim Piland, Rex Trader, Dave Grove, Janice Hopper Kern and Gary Voyles.

Elimination Of Cash Bail In Illinois

Continued from page 1A

The reform was driven by the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus in January 2021 in the wake of George Floyd's murder in Minneapolis as an effort to address systemic racism in the criminal justice system. It was part of the broader SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform - short for Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity-Today.

An analysis of U.S. Department of Justice data by researchers at the Loyola University of Chicago Center for Criminal Justice showed that in 2019, half of jail detainees in Illinois were Black compared to 15 percent of the state population; 33 percent were white compared to 76 percent of the population; and 14 percent were Hispanic compared to 18 percent of the population.

The PFA's multi-pronged approach to limiting pre-trial detention starts with law enforcement decisions in the field.

Under the law, officers retain the discretion to arrest any individual they believe to be a threat to the public safety or if they believe an arrest is the only way to keep the individual from continued violation of the law, like when a person is trespassing.

One major change, however, is that it directs - but does not require - officers to cite and release the individual if they are accused of a crime below a Class A misdemeanor, with a court date to be scheduled within 21 days.

Further changes occur at the judicial level after an arrest is made. The PFA directly states the crimes and circumstances under which a judge can order an individual jailed as they await trial.

After weathering months of criticism and election

season misinformation campaigns over the SAFE-T Act, Democratic lawmakers in December added to the list of offenses considered "detainable," including any felony that involved the "threat of or infliction of great bodily harm or permanent disability or disfigurement."

Another subset of crimes become detainable if a judge believes the defendant to be a flight risk.

Loyola's CCJ analyzed arrest data from 2020 and 2021, concluding that a judge would not have been able to detain the defendant in 56 percent of arrests that occurred over that span had the PFA been in place. But another analysis by the CCJ showed only 19 percent of individuals with pending felony cases were in jail while awaiting trial on average from 2017 through 2019, with another 17 percent on electronic monitoring or pre-trial supervision.

That means about 64 percent of individuals awaiting trial for felony charges over that timespan were living in the community without any sort of supervision, the study found.

The research didn't predict whether more or fewer defendants will be jailed while awaiting trial once the PFA takes effect. It did, however, predict that those facing lower-level charges will likely spend less time in jail, while stays may be lengthened for those accused of violent crime because they can no longer free themselves on bail if a judge orders them detained.

Lake County State's Attorney Eric Rinehart, who supported the PFA, said the distinction between the law's changes to judicial and law enforcement authority led to much of the misinformation that surrounded it in a contentious 2022 election season.

"The word 'detainable' became intermixed with the word 'handcuff-able'... and I think police officers thought that they were going to be checking their cheat sheet under the SAFE-T Act as to whether or not they could handcuff a retail theft (suspect)," he said. "Police officers were directed not to cuff cooperative individuals who were not a threat to anyone, who were accused of committing a very small class of crimes, what we call (class) B and C misdemeanors."

Those misdemeanors include such crimes as low-level property offenses that do not include violence.

Rinehart spoke at a media briefing this week organized by domestic violence survivor advocacy groups. Those groups, which worked with lawmakers to draft the law, noted it gives judges greater authority than previous law to detain individuals accused of domestic violence.

Under previous law, bail hearings typically occurred within 72 hours of arrest, lasting fewer than five minutes. Prosecutors would detail the defendant's charges and potentially recommend a bail amount. The judge would then decide the conditions of their release, including how much money, if any, the defendant must post before their release.

The overhaul of the system was driven by the concern that decisions about a person's freedom weren't receiving enough scrutiny in court.

Beginning Monday, it is still up to state's attorneys to petition the court to detain an individual prior to their trial. But upon that petition, a new, more robust pre-trial process will begin. Under it, the defendant is given the right to legal representation at their first hearing, with the detention hearing typically

taking place within 24 or 48 hours of the first appearance in court.

The new process allows a defendant to have a public defender or private attorney at their first appearance, while also placing a greater emphasis on counties to provide pre-trial services aimed at assuring a defendant's appearance in court while also connecting them with supports focused on limiting recidivism.

For Nathan Rowland, a part-time contract public defender for Gallatin and Hamilton counties in the far southeastern corner of Illinois, that means he'll be busier than ever before in his two-decade career as a public defender. Rowland, who works out of his private office in McLeansboro, said he still has many unanswered questions as to how the system will work.

But he also said he believes the justice system has for years been "lazily" substituting high-dollar bonds for "a particularized dangerousness finding," which will be a requirement for keeping a defendant in jail under the PFA. And for many of his low-income clients - especially those accused of non-violent crimes - abolishing cash bail will mean they won't languish in jail simply because they can't afford to post bond.

"You get removed from your life and when you come back to it two weeks later or three months later, it's in complete shambles," Rowland said of individuals who are detained pre-trial.

On Aug. 30, the Supreme Court issued an order allowing counties to hold detention hearings remotely through March 18, 2024, due to the anticipated volume of new cases and limited resources in certain areas of the state.

Rosenthal Concerned About The End Of Cash Bail

State Representative Wayne Rosenthal of Morrisville expressed his concerns about the State of Illinois ending cash bail on Sept. 18.

"Cash bail has been a significant part of Illinois' criminal procedure to ensure the safety of citizens," he said. "This new law does not ad-

dress the problem of rising violence and Democrats have failed to acknowledge the flaws within their policies."

The SAFE-T Act was presented to reduce crime, but the law passed by the Democrat-controlled legislature actually hinders public safety, Rosenthal added. Law enforcement

across the state have voiced their concerns, but through the stroke of a pen, their voices were erased.

"The SAFE-T Act law is very poor legislation for ensuring public safety and eliminating cash bail for those who commit crimes will have a direct impact across Illinois,"

Rosenthal said. "We need to continue supporting our law enforcement and let them know our priority is to keep Illinois families safe."

For more information, contact Representative Rosenthal's office at 217-782-8071 or visit his website at representhal.com



Doyle Library Joins Fun At Raymond Celebration

Doyle Public Library joined the fun at this year's Raymond Celebration hosting a free event just for kids on Saturday morning, Sept. 16. A special inflatable obstacle course was set up outside the library for kids of all ages to enjoy. Kids from the left are Freddie Wagahoff, Eli Painter, JR Painter, Westin Elliott and Charlotte Caladrini.

Planning Commission Discusses Future Events

by Ron Deabenderfer

Chairman Barb Hewitt convened the Hillsboro Planning Commission at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 19; commissioners present included Secretary Don Karban, Dave Booher, Mike Ryan, Michelle Ondrey, David Powell and Dylan Richter. Also present as contributors were Mayor Don Downs and City Planner and Economic Development person Sarah McConnell.

Karban delivered the Imagine Hillsboro report, reminding all that the Parks and Recreation Shake the Lakes Fun Run and Walk is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 14; more details are to come. The Saturday before that, Oct. 7, will be Imagine's Harvest Market in downtown Hillsboro. Multiple vendors are expected, and the event begins at 9 a.m. and goes to 3 p.m.

At 5 p.m. Moonlight Madness begins. The Hospital Bed Race starts then too; included in the days festivities will be the return of Atlas 46' Monster Build and the grand opening of their newer facility on Courthouse Square.

Also to come is the Trick or Treat downtown trail on October 27; look for more

details about that attraction for tykes.

Mayor Downs said the barge the city ordered should be delivered next week. He said bank repairs could begin soon on Glenn Shoals; the lower water level (because of sparse rainfall) could help that process.

In the downtown building report, the former Lemos on the east side of the square has been rented to the state to accommodate changes coming to the court system because of the changes in cash bail law affecting pre-trial bond procedures. Reportedly it is a five year lease.

The Hillsboro Zoning Code is currently under review by code experts hired by the city; each zoning board member and planning commissioner will have a chance to review and comment individually. Downs said the project should be done by the end of this calendar year.

The quest for Block grants from HUD was discussed by the commissioners and Ms. McConnell. The last HUD Grant in Hillsboro helped areas on Anna and Virginia Streets.

Ms. Hewitt said near meeting's end that one of the future plans should be to recruit retail businesses for Main Street; current merchants feel that more retail would attract more shoppers to town. An apparent need is a dry cleaning service.

McConnell said she thought pop-up shops might be an answer; retailers might find keeping store-fronts open could be problematical because so many shoppers use online chances. Several of the commissioners offered ideas, and Hewitt recruited more suggestions for the next meeting.

She also called for a special meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 10, at 12:30 p.m. at which time a change in meeting days will be considered.

FALL INTO SAVINGS

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From the left, Gold Star Mission President Barry Tobias and volunteer Don Siltman greet Gold Star mother Judy Dalhaus of Litchfield, whose son, Sgt. John R. Dalhaus, was killed in a traffic accident while on active duty in December 1990.

Journal-News Photo

Gold Star Mission

Continued from page 1A

After the emotional surprise greeting from her friend, Rodgers said her son, United States Army Sgt. Joshua Rodgers, was killed in action on April 27, 2017, on his third deployment to Afghanistan. He was 22 years old. Rodgers, a Bloomington resident, said she supports the Gold Star Mission to celebrate the lives of fallen military men and women, honor their families, and collect funds for scholarships in their names.

Riders and their support teams spent Tuesday night in Simmons Gym at Litchfield High School. Dinner was provided by the Litchfield VFW, and breakfast the Wednesday morning was courtesy of Litchfield McDonald's.

After dinner on Tuesday,

Hillsboro Council

Continued from page 1A

An agreement with United Health Care for city employees health insurance was approved; UHC is a new carrier for the group. Ward said the old carrier's proposal was 40% higher than the last agreement; UHC's bid was 10% higher, and it was recommended by the city's employee insurance committee.

Utilities Commissioner Kendra Wright moved that the city pay an invoice from Petersburg Plumbing for emergency work done at South Main and School Street last September. Wright said that the Petersburg firm had provided invaluable help (because of specific equipment they can provide) in the past, and she doesn't want to see that avenue for future aid closed. The bill hadn't been paid earlier because of a dispute about which contractor caused the main rupture in the first place, but the council agreed to pay the bill now and receive reimbursement from the guilty party when the dispute is resolved. The invoice was for \$9,050.68.

A final approved-for-pay bill (for \$2,200) covers the cost of the striping around the courthouse square.

McConnell's report detailed: work continuing in conjunction with Moran Development on the city's Capital Improvement Plan and Redevelopment agreements; a collaborative effort with the Montgomery County Economic Development Committee (MCEDC), "...for the betterment of our region as a whole"; an outline of activities planned for downtown Hillsboro during October; and progress that is ongoing to make Hillsboro a part of the Looking for Lincoln Trail group.

Butler's specific responsibilities include the Streets Department as well as Parks and Public Properties. He said the street crew has finished the oiling and chipping procedure for the summer, including sweeping excess rock off the streets; installing three meter pits, and helping the park crew pour concrete. Mowing continues, as does brush pickup.

The parks' workers continue improving the new this-year disc golf course in City Lake Park, assisting CTI with solving wifi campground issues, and maintenance work around town. He had special praise for the efforts of Aaron Schultz and the HHS Building Trades Class for their work on the pavilion at Central Park.

Justison referred to Leet-

riders and their support team heard from Litchfield resident Judy Dalhaus, the Gold Star mother of United States Marines Sgt. John R. Dalhaus, who was killed in a traffic accident at Marine Corps Air Station Tustin in California on Dec. 26, 1990, while on active duty at his assigned duty station. A 1986 graduate of Litchfield High School, Sgt. Dalhaus was a trained test cell operator who had earned a Meritorious Mast, a Meritorious Unit Commendation, a Good Conduct Medal, a national defense Service Medal and a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Gold Star Mission riders and support teams honored Mrs. Dalhaus with a standing ovation for her remarks and for her sacrifice.

ham's report about developments in the Police Department. Thirty-three traffic citations were issued along with 32 written warnings. In total 2,699 radio/phone contacts were made with the department from mid August to mid September.

Motorola representatives will be in town next Monday to integrate the body camera system and the in-car system; training for the body cameras is set for Oct. 3. The school resource officer has begun appearances at the high school, but full deployment depends upon another hire for the department.

In fire news, Justison said hydrant flushing and testing is underway.

Justison asked Code Enforcement Officer Mike Lee to make his own report. He said high grass on boulevards and yards around town violates the code he is in charge of enforcing. Recently he explained the situation to four homeowners, and three letters notifying others of violations are to be written.

Wright reported hydrants north of the water plant have all been tested and that 15% of the areas east of the plant and north of town have also been flow tested. The low lake level hasn't caused any problems yet; the level is low because of meager rainfall across the watershed recently.

The Sewer Department is still waiting for two control panels for lift stations that are on back-order; that's an ongoing problem for utility companies with older, perhaps obsolete, equipment.

Project manager Tim Ferguson attended a meeting concerning a proposed walking path route through the waste water treatment plant area so pedestrians can walk from Central Park to Brewer Sanctuary. It's a future project with "...a couple of options... possible."

Mayor Downs reported asbestos abatement at the big red building on the former highway department site on Seymour Avenue has apparently been completed (workers haven't been there this week); but the building, owned by the county, is still needed for storage of MABAS and other emergency equipment. Once a structure is built on the new highway department grounds to house the emergency equipment, the county will tear the old building down and then put the property up for bids as a development site.

The council next meets on Tuesday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. in city hall.

Litchfield School Board

Continued from page 1A

All bids were approved unanimously. Board member Mark Bloome voted present, and said after the meeting that he wasn't in favor of the project.

In other updates at Litchfield Primary School, Ratermann said the masonry team has mobilized on site and the structure of the storm shelter is going up. He expects that much of that work will be done before the board meets again in October. Inside the building, Ratermann said they have completed the underground plumbing and electrical work.

There were two change orders approved unanimously by the board. The first was for \$7,475.02 to add a new mop basin in the storage room. Emily Spindler of FGM Architects said that when the design was first done, the building was only for kindergarten and first grade students. With the pre-K addition, the maintenance department requested another mop basin to be installed. The second change order was for \$17,606.57 for replaced corroded galvanized piping with copper piping and furring out the lavatory wall in the boys and girls restrooms to allow the copper piping to be concealed. Ratermann said they were trying to be economical and use some of the galvanized pipes already in place, but when they got inside the walls, the pipes were not salvagable. The change order also includes some drywall work. Ratermann said that now every water line in the building now has new copper pipes.

Ratermann also gave updates on the Litchfield Elementary School project and the South Central Illinois Workforce Training and Innovation Center.

At Litchfield Elementary School, Ratermann said construction is nearly complete except for a few warranty items. They found a humidity issue with the HVAC unit and are troubleshooting to find the best solutions. Board President Julie Abel asked if they would also be replacing a compressor, and Ratermann said they would once school was out of session.

The board approved one change order unanimously for \$4,435 to replace thresholds where water got into the building. Superintendent Dr. Gregory Fuerstenau said the school district will be repaid for that and the district will not be charged.

At the SCI Center, Ratermann said they were finishing up a few final items. The board unanimously approved three change orders. The first was a credit for \$52,445.99 for a tire balancer and wheel aligner that were ordered and then returned. Ratermann said they would be getting a new type. They also approved a change order for \$2,196.61 to provide compressed air connection to the four-post lift in the automotive department. The final change order was for \$8,843.74 to rent temporary air conditioning units for construction crews to be able to start work in the summer months.

During her report, Litchfield High School Principal Juleta Ellis said she had been out to the SCI Center several times, and the students are very excited. Teacher Matt Belusko has been trained on the new welding machines, and students are building a tool box in the auto department.

Other Business

In other business, the meeting opened with a public hearing for the fiscal year 2023-2024 budget. With no public comments, the hearing



New district staff members were introduced at the board meeting. From the left are high school science teacher Evan Malloy, pre-kindergarten teacher Taylor Jones and high school math teacher Daniel Kessinger.

Journal-News Photo

lasted less than five minutes. During the regular meeting, board members approved the budget unanimously. Dr. Fuerstenau said there weren't any changes from when the tentative budget was presented at the last meeting. This year's budget calls for \$34.3 million in revenue and \$45.7 million in expenses, with the deficit due largely to ongoing construction projects at Litchfield Primary School.

Dr. Fuerstenau opened the sole bid for the sale of the Russell School property during the meeting. He said several had come to look at the building, but they only received one bid. The board unanimously awarded the building to Illinois Solar for \$51,000.

Jim Helton of the Illinois Association of School Boards attended the meeting and gave a ten-minute update on the district's superintendent search. He presented the survey results from talking to building staff, both certified and non-certified, administrators and the board. Helton talked about what the staff think are the district's strengths and weaknesses, as well as the characteristics they are looking for in a new superintendent. His report will be posted on the district website. Helton said the application period closed on Sept. 20, and they had around 20 applicants so far. He and his colleagues will begin to go through the applicants to bring the top six to the board for a closed session meeting on Oct. 3. First interviews will be held in another closed session meeting on Oct. 10, and another meeting on Oct. 19 will include stakeholders in the district. Dr. Fuerstenau will retire at the end of the school year.

Board members approved several other items, including authorizing the district to apply for a school maintenance grant, as well as the district's risk management plan. The board also approved the transfer of \$771,900 from capital projects to debt service to pay down the alternative revenue bonds used for Litchfield Elementary School. They also approved the abatement of \$4 million in working cash funds to capital projects to pay for the pre-K addition at Litchfield Primary School.

Under the consent agenda, the board approved minutes from the previous meeting, payment of bills and the monthly treasurer's report. For September, the board approved bills totaling \$3.8 million, including \$477,384.45 from the education fund, \$82,561.83 from operations and maintenance, \$1,598,689.82 from debt service, \$26,228.33 from transportation, \$855,092.57 from capital projects, \$38,539.43 from tort and \$774,324.12 from health-life-safety. Dr. Fuerstenau said the bills reflect the start of the school year, as well as the new salary

schedule for certified staff, technology purchases and construction costs. He added that the district made the last loan payment for the buses, so their fleet is now paid for.

In his treasurer's report, Dr. Fuerstenau said the ending balance in all funds as of Aug. 31, is \$24,218,283, including \$14,862,949 in operating funds, \$871,860 in capital projects and \$6,615,633 in health-life-safety. Dr. Fuerstenau said the total balance reflects the first half of local property taxes received by the district. The second payment has also been received and will be reflected in the October report.

During the citizens' agenda, Dr. Fuerstenau introduced new staff to the board, including pre-K teacher Taylor Jones, high school math teacher Daniel Kessinger and high school science teacher and girls basketball coach Evan Malloy. Other new staff include elementary art teacher Heidi Hulliung, high school special education teacher Wyman Markle, elementary education teacher Shea Murray and high school/middle school technology teacher Kelli White.

Information Items

Dr. Fuerstenau made his monthly enrollment report, showing 1,251 students in the district as of Aug. 31.

Sihler and Madison Park Principal Adam Favre made the first administrator report and noted they having finished assessment testing in his buildings. They will go over results with parents and parent-teacher conferences. He said they had a successful fundraiser with positive comments from the community. Favre added they are getting ready to take a couple of field trips as Madison Park students will visit the zoo this fall and pre-K students will visit Big M Berry Park in Taylorville. In a final note, he said the pre-K program received a gold rating from the Illinois State Board of Education. He thanked all his staff members for all their hard work.

Litchfield Elementary School Principal Jeremy Heigert said he felt students are really enjoying the new school building, and they too are planning for some field trips. He said all grade levels also have the chance to visit the Litchfield Public Library each month. In a final note, he said they are working on a new Student Council for fourth and fifth grade students, for students to pitch ideas on how they can help out in the building.

At Litchfield Middle School, Dr. Russ Tepen reported they finished testing, and are beginning to plan their first literacy night to help encourage reading at home. He said they want it to be meaningful for students and parents. He added they are also planning a book fair the same week as parent-teacher conferences

to encourage reading as well. In a few final notes, he said students are enjoying the new STEM classes and he had high praise for the district's new math curriculum and said they have seen growth in student scores.

At the high school, Principal Juleta Ellis congratulated AJ Sypher for being voted as the SJ-R Athlete of the Week with over 2,000 votes. She reminded the board it was Homecoming Week and that the parade and street fair would be held Friday, Sept. 15 at 4 p.m. She thanked Student Council for organizing it all.

Ellis presented a new program, Panther Cookie Company, led by Jill Wright, and brought samples for board members. They just received a donation from HEIDI to support that endeavor. They plan to sell cookies in the IMC.

LHS Assistant Principal Hilary Wagenblast has been meeting with freshman students and will present some of the career pathway programs to them in December.

In a final note, Ellis said they have a new class at the high school this year featuring community involvement. Their first project is housing the Gold Star Mission riders in the LHS gym. Students really embraced the project.

In his superintendent's report, Dr. Fuerstenau said the district will be bidding out its food service program this year. The bid has to be approved by the Illinois State Board of Education, and they hope to award it in May. Food service has to be re-bid every five years.

Dr. Fuerstenau said the district has not received the school report card yet, but they plan to present it at the October meeting. He added they are working on planning Title I literacy nights as well.

In a final note, Dr. Fuerstenau said the district received two FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests from Legal Action in Chicago and Smart Procure.

Personnel

Following 35 in closed session, the board approved the monthly personnel report.

The board approved family medical leave for elementary school teacher Ann Helgen from Nov. 9 through Feb. 23.

They approved bus route changes including Marvin Savage to the horse route (4.5 hours per day), Jeanne Gebhardt to the barn route (4.0 hours per day), Renee Melchert to the heart route (3.75 hours per day) and Callie Morgan to the star route (3.50 hours per day).

In athletics, the board accepted the resignation of high school varsity girls volleyball coach Kari Drago at the end of the season. They approved Jennifer Schwab and Robyn Engstrom as volunteer coaches for the middle school cross country team.

Board members approved Gregg Hires as a volunteer coach for the seventh grade boys basketball team. Hires abstained from the vote and Bloome voted no.

The board hired Daniel Bonnell as high school freshman boys basketball coach, Anthony Robinson as high school head boys track coach, Cody Younker as middle school head wrestling coach and Trevor Hogue as high school assistant wrestling coaches. Hires abstained from the vote on Bonnell.

The board approved Tara Younker and Kayla Davidson as volunteer coaches for the high school and middle school wrestling programs.

The board adjourned at 7:52. They will meet again on Tuesday evening, Oct. 17, beginning at 6 p.m. at the District Office.

Lots Of Winners From Raymond Celebration

Before they announced the winners of the Junior Miss Independence and Miss Independence pageants, several drawings were held at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday, Sept. 16, at the culmination of this year's Raymond Celebration.

Greg Bernhardt won half a hog in a fundraiser raffle benefitting the Panhandle Picklers.

Danielle Moffit won \$60 in the 50/50 drawing for the Raymond-Harvel Ambulance Service. She donated her winnings back to the

ambulance district.

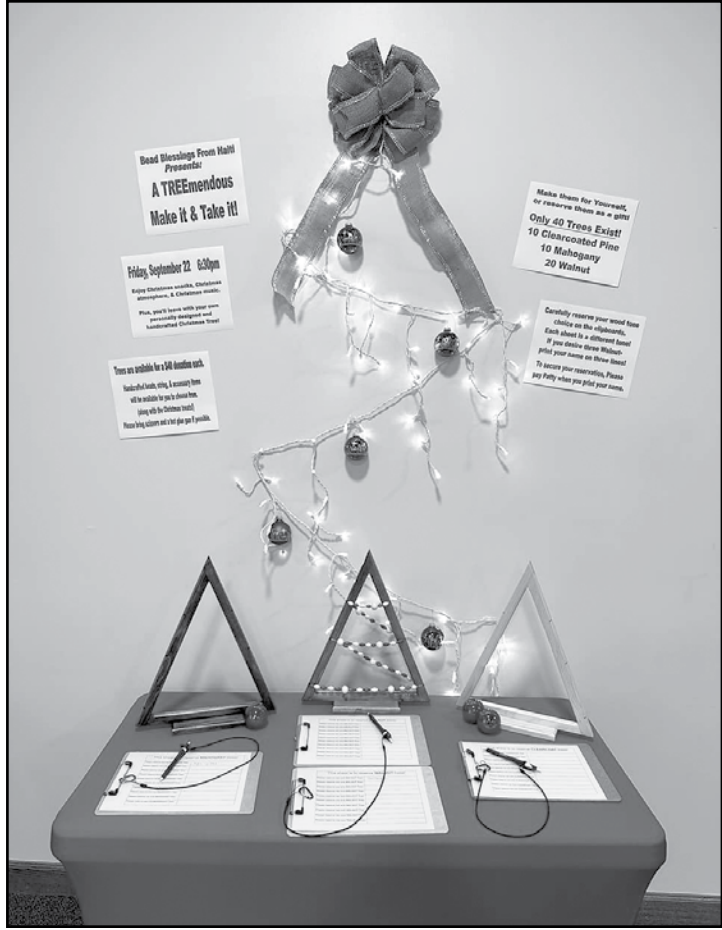
Gary Armentrout won the annual 50/50 drawing benefitting the Raymond Celebration and Robin Sarver won a griddle.

Volunteers also announced winners in the pie baking competition. Jean

Fuchs won first place for her blackberry pie, followed by Janet Walch in second place with her Jonathan apple pie and Dana Pitchford in third place with her pecan pie. The winning pies and all entries were raffled off by Brent Germann and Dennis Matli.

Out & About

8A - Thursday, September 21, 2023



Pleasant Hill Will Host Craft Night Fundraiser

Pleasant Hill Christian Church in Raymond will be hosting a Make and Take event fundraiser for Bead Blessings from Haiti at the church on Friday, Sept. 22, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Participants may choose a tree and add a Bead Blessings from Haiti garland, lights, a bow or a star. Other craft projects will also be available to benefit Bead Blessings of Haiti and refreshments will be served. Registration is \$40, and space is limited so contact the church at (217) 229-3074 to reserve a spot.

Litchfield FFA To Sell Mums At Homecoming Street Fair

Members of the Litchfield High School FFA will be selling mums for \$10 at the LHS Homecoming street fair on Friday, Sept. 22. The street fair will be held on the northeast lawn of the high school, immediately following the Homecoming parade, which steps off at 4 p.m. In addition, they will also be grilling and selling hot dogs and pork patties.

6TH ANNUAL DONNELLSON CEMETERY PICNIC
 Masonic Park • Donnellson
 Sunday, October 1 • 2-5 p.m.
FOOD • VENDORS • RAFFLE PRIZES
 Still seeking vendors for this event.
 Call 217-710-7775

ANTIQU VINTAGE COLLECTIBLES SALE
 Thursday, Sept. 28 • 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Friday & Saturday, Sept. 29 & 30 • 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
 955 Alton St. • Gillespie (Between Gillespie & Bend.)
 Canning jars, cookware, Corning, toys, 50s thru 80s, beer & liquor memorabilia, Mikasa, brass, copper, tropical, nautical, Tonka, kerosene heater, hats, cookbooks, depression glass, purses, Norman Rockwell, knives, razors, Playboy, ash trays, crystal, rugs, wine-making bottles, bowls, Anheuser Busch glassware, metal signs, Tupperware, silverware, brass lamps, McCoy, roasters, fireplace tool set, stained glass, stamps, tools, baseball cards, pottery, Bentwood hall tree, quilts, cameras, crocheted & embroidered linen, potted plants, horses & farm equipment.

City of Coffeen Fall Fest
 Saturday, September 23
 Craft Vendors ~ 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Contact Jodi Summers (text) at 217-827-2547
 Food ~ 11 a.m.- 6 p.m.
 Lions Club/KC Hall Fish Dinners ~ 3-6 p.m.
 Music: *The Strugglers* ~ 3-6 p.m.
ASHTON WHITE BLACKSMITHING DEMONSTRATIONS ALL DAY LONG
 Horseshoe Tournament • 10 a.m.-? • \$10 Entry Fee
 Sign up by 9:30 a.m. • Contact Stan Thacker at 217-825-3329
 Dessert Walk • Noon-1 p.m.
 Bingo ~ 1-3 p.m.
RADA KNIFE SALES ALL DAY
 Bounce House ALL Day
 50/50 Drawing at 5 p.m.
Bags Tournament 1 p.m.-?
 \$10 Entry Fee per person
 Registration for Blind Draw starts at Noon
 Contact Allen Marley at 618-781-9540
 If you bring your own bags, bring all 8
 For additional information, contact Robert Wessell at 217-534-6456, Jodi Summers at 217-827-2547, or City Hall at 217-534-2216

Coffeen Fall Fest Will Benefit Veterans Memorial

The City of Coffeen will host its annual Fall Fest event this Saturday, Sept. 23, beginning at 11 a.m. in Washington Park. Craft vendors will be set up from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and there is still some booth space available. Contact Jodi Summers at 217-827-2547 for more information. The Lions Club and the

KC Hall will be serving fish dinners from 3 to 6 p.m., while *The Strugglers* provide live entertainment during that same time. Throughout the day, Ashton White will provide blacksmithing demonstrations. Other activities throughout the day include a bounce house and Rada knife sales. A dessert walk will be held

from noon to 1 p.m. and participants can play Bingo from 1 to 3 p.m. A 50/50 drawing will be held at 5 p.m. The annual bags tournament begins at 1 p.m. with a \$10 entry fee per person. Registration for the blind draw begins at noon. Participants who choose to bring their own bags, should bring all eight. For more informa-

tion, contact Allen Marley at 618-781-9540. Proceeds from this year's Fall Fest will benefit the Veterans Memorial project. For more information about this year's event, contact Robert Wessell at 217-534-6456, Jodi Summers at 217-827-2547 or City Hall at 217-534-2216.

Litchfield Sports Boosters Host Donor Drive Friday

It's Homecoming week in Litchfield, and the Litchfield Middle School and Litchfield High School Sports Boosters are holding a donor drive to celebrate. During the Homecoming football game on Friday evening, Sept. 22, Sports Boosters will be selling pork chop sandwiches and hot dogs. In addition, they will be hosting a membership drive with donor levels from \$10

to \$100 and up. The \$10 membership level includes a Panther decal, and the \$11-\$49 level includes a rally towel. Donors who contribute \$50-\$99 will get a rally towel and one hat, and donors who donate \$100 or more will receive a rally towel and two hats. The Sports Boosters have three types of hats to choose from, including stocking, regular and bucket. Donations of \$100 to \$199

get one meal and a donation of \$200 or more gets two meals. Donors also have a chance to get their names on the banner, including \$50 for bronze level, \$100 for silver level and \$200 or more for gold level. All proceeds benefit LHS and LMS athletes and sports programs through fundraising, sports banquets, Panther fan items, senior athletic scholarships, athletic equip-

ment, uniforms and promoting Panther pride. Litchfield Sports Booster membership forms are available on their Facebook page. They may be filled out at the Homecoming game or mailed to Litchfield Sports Boosters, P.O. Box 3, Litchfield, IL 62056. To receive the free Panther gear, membership forms must be returned by Oct. 6



Nokomis Class Of 1956 Celebrates 67 Years

The Nokomis High School Class of 1956 had their 67th class reunion on Sept. 2, at Town Pump Bowl in Nokomis. There were nine classmates and four guests in attendance. Josie Barringer made a heart with the names of the classmates that have passed away. The attendees voted to hold another reunion next year with the date set for Aug. 31, 2024 at Town Pump Bowl. In front, from the left, are Josie (Herzog) Barringer, Glenna (Bland) Sanders, Beverly (Patton) Hasdra, Janice (Mindrup) Meiners and Jim Smith. In back are Ruth (Epley) Herpstreith, June (Spears) Bauer, Clem Huber and John Meiners.

Hillsboro Seniors Plan Luncheon This Thursday

The Hillsboro Community Seniors Club will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 26 at noon. There will be a meal of meatloaf and mashed potatoes. Members are asked to bring a covered dish or dessert. They will also be playing Bingo. To make a reservation, call Lyn at 217-532-3662 by Friday, Sept. 22.

St. Michael's Plans October Chicken Dinner

St. Michael's Parish, located at 419 E. Main Street in Staunton, will host their annual chicken dinner on Sunday, Oct. 1. Dinners will be sold for \$15 each. This year, the dinner will be offered take-out only, and dinners and the Country Store will be available in the gym from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR LITCHFIELD BOWLING LEAGUES
 • Monday Night Mixed
 • Wednesday Night Mixed
 • Looking for women
 for doubles on Thursday Night

IRVING FALL CLEAN UP
 8am-1pm Monday-Tuesday, October 16-17
 at the Irving Township Building
 Residents must check in at the building and provide proof of residency
ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ARE:
 • Paints/Chemicals • Hazardous or Special Waste
 • Petroleum Products • Tires/Inner Tubes
 • Electronics (TVs, Monitors) • Yard Waste

HILLSBORO SERTOMA COOKOUT
 Monday, September 25
 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 CNB Parking Lot, Hillsboro
Pork Patties Or Bratwurst
 \$8 ~ Per Meal
 \$6 ~ Sandwich Only

Hillsboro Lions Club
Seasoned Pork Chop Lunch

 Friday, Sept. 22
 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
 CNB Hillsboro Banking Center
 \$8 meal includes:
 • Seasoned Pork Chop Sandwich
 • Chips
 • Drink
 • \$6 for sandwich only
 The Hillsboro Lions Club thanks you for your support of community activities such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, eye examination machine, Senior Citizens, and other local projects to support the community!

GLO Bingo
 Saturday, Sept. 30
 Litchfield Community Center
DOORS OPEN AT 6 P.M. - BINGO AT 7 P.M.
TICKETS: \$25 IN ADVANCE - \$30 AT THE DOOR
CALL BARB ANGLE AT 217-556-3156
 Food Available • Bring Your Own Drinks
 Hosted by VFW Post 3912 & Auxiliary

175th Anniversary
Grand Lodge Rededication

 The public is invited to help celebrate the 175th anniversary of the Mt. Moriah Lodge, located at 903 S. Main Street in Hillsboro. The rededication ceremony will be held on Saturday, Sept. 23, beginning at 2 p.m.

Litchfield Route Changes For Colors Of Cancer Run

The Litchfield Chamber of Commerce is once again hosting the popular Colors of Cancer 5K run this Saturday, Sept. 23, in Litchfield. All proceeds benefit the Montgomery County Cancer Association.

Online registration for this year's event officially closed on Sept. 20, but in-person registration will still be available on race day. Same-day registration will be held from 7 to 7:45 a.m.

The race steps off at 8 a.m.

with a change to the start line. It will now start at the Litchfield city parking lot on the east side of Edwards and State (across from the Litchfield Police Department) parking lot.

Prizes will be awarded to the top overall male and female, as well as the top three finishers in each age division. Results will be announced at the end of the race.

For more information, visit the Litchfield Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.

Camren's Mini Greens Takes Flight In October

Volunteers with Camren's Causes are finalizing plans for the fourth annual Camren's on the Mini Greens tournament this fall.

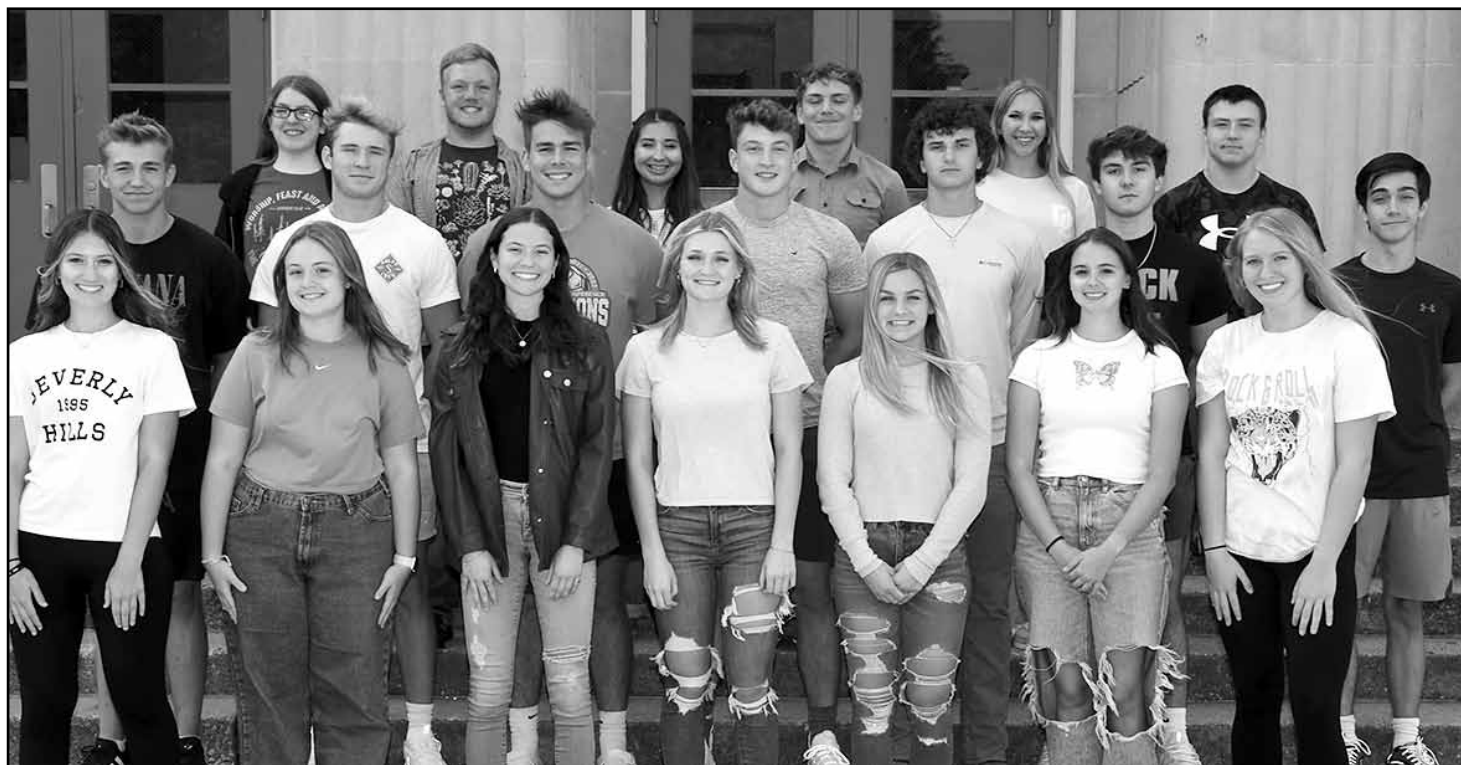
This year's miniature golf tournament will be held at Camren's Mini Greens at Shane Cole Park in Nokomis. Tee times will depend on the number of golfers.

Boys and girls up to fifth grade are invited to partici-

pate. Registration is \$25, and includes a T-shirt, goodies and lunch.

Registration is due by Sept. 25. Forms are available online on the Camren's Causes Facebook page. Completed forms may be mailed to 19396 N. 21st Ave., Nokomis, IL 62075.

For more information, contact Brandy Chausse at 217-502-4875.

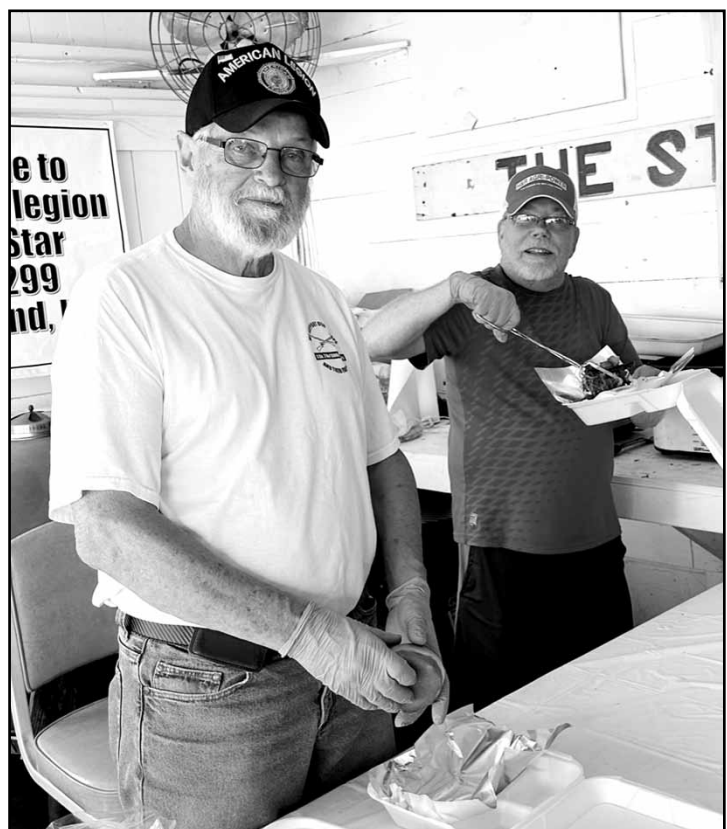


Hiltoppers Announce 2023 Homecoming Court

Hillsboro High School has announced this year's Homecoming Court. Festivities kick off with a community-wide pep rally on Saturday, Sept. 23, beginning at 6 p.m. at Sawyer Field on the HHS campus, followed by the annual powder puff football game at 7 p.m. Dress-up days will continue throughout Homecoming week with the theme of the Hillsboro's Bicentennial celebration. The Homecoming football game will be held on Friday evening, Sept. 29, followed by the annual Homecoming dance on Saturday evening, Sept. 30, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. This year's theme is "Light Up the Night Neon Bright," and the dance will be held from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. in the school gym. Coronation of the new king and queen will be held at 9 p.m.

Pictured above, in front, from the left are senior queen candidates Jesse Balla, Lily Churchwell, Chloe Martincic, Ava Polard, Kinley Richardson and Annabelle Wright and emcee Ellie Miller. In the second row are senior escorts, Ian Anderson, Dylan Lessman, Mitchell Lowe, Landon Reincke, Jace Stewart and Landon Summers and emcee Cooper Law. In back are class representatives freshmen Anne Buske and Jaxon Wittenmyer, sophomores Claire Matthews and Olan Lentz and juniors Lauryn Miller and Austin Newingham.

Journal-News Photo



Raymond Legion Host Pulled Pork Fundraiser

The annual American Legion Post 299 pulled pork drive-thru dinner was held on Friday evening, Sept. 8, at the American Legion in Raymond. The meal included a pulled pork sandwich, two sides, dessert and a drink for \$10. Pictured above, David Rovey and George Taylor prepare meals.

Raymond News Photo

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church Hosts Worship On Sunday

On Sunday, Sept. 24, Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Litchfield's pastor Cynthia Munker will lead worship at with holy communion for the 17th Sunday after Pentecost at 10:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The worship service will also be live-streamed on the Mt. Zion Lutheran, Litchfield facebook page.

The service will be studying Exodus 16:2-15, Psalm 145:1-8 and Philippians 1:21-30. The gospel for preaching and study is Matthew 20:1-16.

This will be Pastor Munker's last worship service with the congregation, as her ministry with ends on Sept. 30. There will be a farewell reception for her immediately following worship.

The church's Mission Beyond Our Walls for September is ELCA Domestic Disaster Relief. Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing, and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States.



Nearly 70 Attend Sept. Senior Citizens Dance

The Litchfield Senior Citizens Club hosted their senior dance on Sunday evening, Sept. 10. Sixty-seven guests enjoyed the live music by Benny and the Amigos.

Door prizes were won by Judy Hauskins, Clarence Baker and Pat Schwab, pictured above.

The next senior dance will be on Nov. 5, honoring the club veterans for Veterans Day, as well as having a food drive for the local food pantry.

Raymond Board Members Discuss Dog Park, Police

The Raymond Village Board met 7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 18. Those present for the meeting included Mayor Denny Held, trustees Bruce Poggenpohl, Greg Bernhardt, Dan Hough, Ryan Bruntjen, as well as Rick Broaddus, Sally Broaddus, Ty Irwin, Amy Barnes and Wayne Angle.

The meeting began by the board approving the minutes and the financial report of the Sept. 5 meeting, with all voting in favor.

A resident spoke about concerns regarding the location

of the dog park, stating that the neighborhood has a lot of children present, and that he would like the dog park to be located at a different property. The board advised the citizen that the project is in the early stages and plans may change. The board will continue to provide updates on any action going forward.

In streets and alleys, the board congratulated and thanked the Raymond Celebration committee on a successful picnic. It was noted that in the future more picnic tables need to be available for

people attending.

Driveways and other places will be oiled of Thursday, Sept. 21. They also learned that CTI is basically done in Raymond.

The board discussed the need for more Christmas lights, and decided more lights will be purchased.

The village was notified that they will receive some funding from Montgomery County through the American Rescue Plan Act that they previously applied for.

In water and sewer news, the village was notified that

the plant is up for renewal and that Scott Hunt is having EPA issues. Hunt will kept the board informed. There is nothing new regarding the golf course at this time.

Earin Land has informed the mayor that he can no longer work for Raymond as a police officer due to other commitments, and the board will await his resignation letter. The city will be looking for a part-time officer to replace Land.

With nothing more to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.



Brian Cress of Fillmore and his ten-year-old son, Kale, enjoy checking out some of the 55 cars on display at the inaugural Canines and Cars event, held Saturday, Sept. 16, at Fred B. Johnson Park in Nokomis.

Journal-News/Mary Herschelmann



Two-year-old Jacqueline Eaton of Nokomis enjoys snuggling with one of the cats available for adoption from Montgomery County Animal Control during the inaugural Canines and Cars event.

Journal-News Photo

Big Turnout For Canines And Cars In Nokomis

The inaugural Canines and Cars event drew 55 vehicles to Fred B. Johnson Park in Nokomis on Saturday, Sept. 16, as a fundraiser for Montgomery County Animal Control.

Final donations are still coming in, but the fundraiser is already a success for the program. In addition to monetary donations, they also collected wet and dry dog and cat food, blankets, cleaners, puppy pads, kitty litter and trash bags.

Montgomery County Animal Control was also on hand for the event with several adoptable animals. Four of the eight dogs brought to the event found their forever homes, including Noke, Snuggles, Whiskey and Rosie. Two of the eight cats, Cheetoh and Pablo, also found their forever homes.

The fundraiser also included food trucks, vendors and live musical entertainment.

Fifty-five vehicles lined the roads around Fred B. Johnson Park, and visitors loved walking the brick roads to check them all out.

Best in Class winners were Linda Wanger of Nokomis in class one with her 1954 Chevy Bel-Air, Bob Lemon of Litchfield in class two with his 1967 Pontiac GTO, Robert Langen of Raymond in class three with his 1970 Chev-

let Impala, Jordan Miles of Nokomis in class four with his 1996 Lincoln Mark VIII, Joyce Kyle of Morrisonville in class five with her 2021 Ford Mustang CS.

Also, Jackie Billings of Springfield with her 2022 Ford Mustang Mach 1, Bill and MJ Krefft in class seven with their 1972 Chevrolet Chevelle SS, Josh Kane of Greenview in class eight with his 1982 Oldsmobile Cutlass, Lynn Lair of Springfield in class nine with her 2008 Ford Mustang Shelby GT500, Aaron Wood of Ohlman in class ten with his 1978 Ford F-250.

Also, Conner Sarver of Litchfield in class 11 with his 2004 Chevrolet Silverado, Alex Fuselier of Witt in class 12 with his 1953 GMC 630 Fire Truck, Rick and Sandy Kaiser of Taylorville in class 13 with their 1968 Chevrolet C-10, Joe Gasparich of Nokomis in class 14 with his 1980 E-One Fire Truck, Lucas Birdsall of Mt. Olive in class 15 with his 2007 Kawasaki ZX6R Ninja.

Also, Rick and Jackie Upton of Edinburg in class 16 with their 1998 Ford F-150 (military tribute), Jean Aplegate of Nokomis in class 17 with her 2009 Pontiac G8 GT, Ron Scattergood of Chatham in class 18 with his 2018 Ford Mustang GT, Jeff and Cassie Langley of Athens

in class 19 with their 2022 Ford Mustang Mach 1 and Pam Scattergood of Chatham in class 20 with her 2022 Chevrolet Camaro LT1 RS.

In addition, seven speciality awards were given throughout the day.

Alex Fuselier of Witt won Most Unique and Best of Show for his 1953 GMC 630 Fire Truck. This retired fire truck now has an onboard TV, smoker, pull-out grill, two-door cooler and three taps for beverages, making it the perfect tailgate vehicle. The Best of Show award was chosen by 2023 Miss Nokomis Homecoming Audrey Sabol and 2023 Junior Miss Nokomis Homecoming Mila Hildebrandt.

Rock and Jackie Upton of Edinburg won Most Modified for their 1998 Ford F-150 military tribute entry. The original body has been completely removed and all hand-built panels have been installed to replicate a military-style vehicle. The bed has been outfitted with military relics to honor military men and women.

Ron Scattergood of Chatham won Best Paint for his 2018 Ford Mustang GT. The car features a beautiful orange fury paint job with no scratches, chips or flaws. Scattergood added a few subtle touches of pinstripe art to the car that make it

stand out from others.

Rick and Sandy Kasier of Taylorville won Best Interior for their 1968 Chevrolet C-10. The vehicle has been completely restored on the inside with the help of TMI Products, along with a custom center console using a factory shifter from another vehicle.

Sue Fritzsche of Litchfield won Best Engine for her 2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser with a "Casper the Ghost" theme. The engine bay had several hand-painted and air brushed engine parts and panels including the starter. For the vehicle being more than 20 years old, it was surprisingly clean and detailed. Every hose, electrical connector and even the face of the radiator was cleaned.

Josh Kane of Greenview won Farthest Traveled with his 1984 Oldsmobile Cutlass. He traveled about 70 miles with friends for the inaugural car show.

This inaugural Canines and Cars event was sponsored by Cake It On Corner Cakery, 16th and State Mercantile and the Downtown Nokomis Association. They give special thanks to all the event sponsors, vendors, volunteers and everyone who attended and donated to the cause.

We're learning to use computers...



Newspaper Fun!

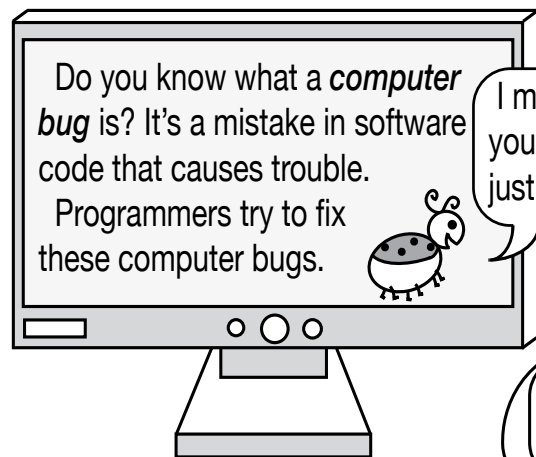
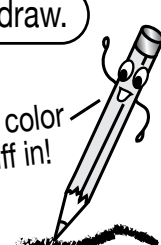
www.readingclubfun.com

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...to do research, write and draw.



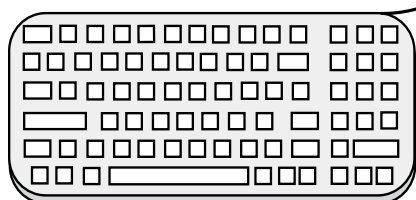
Kids: color stuff in!



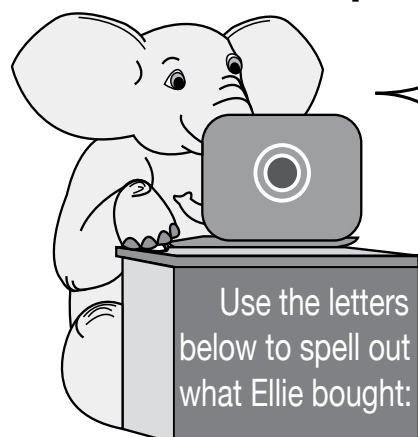
I may **bug** you a lot or just a bit.

Hmph! You call **that** a mouse?

I just don't get it!



Compute This!

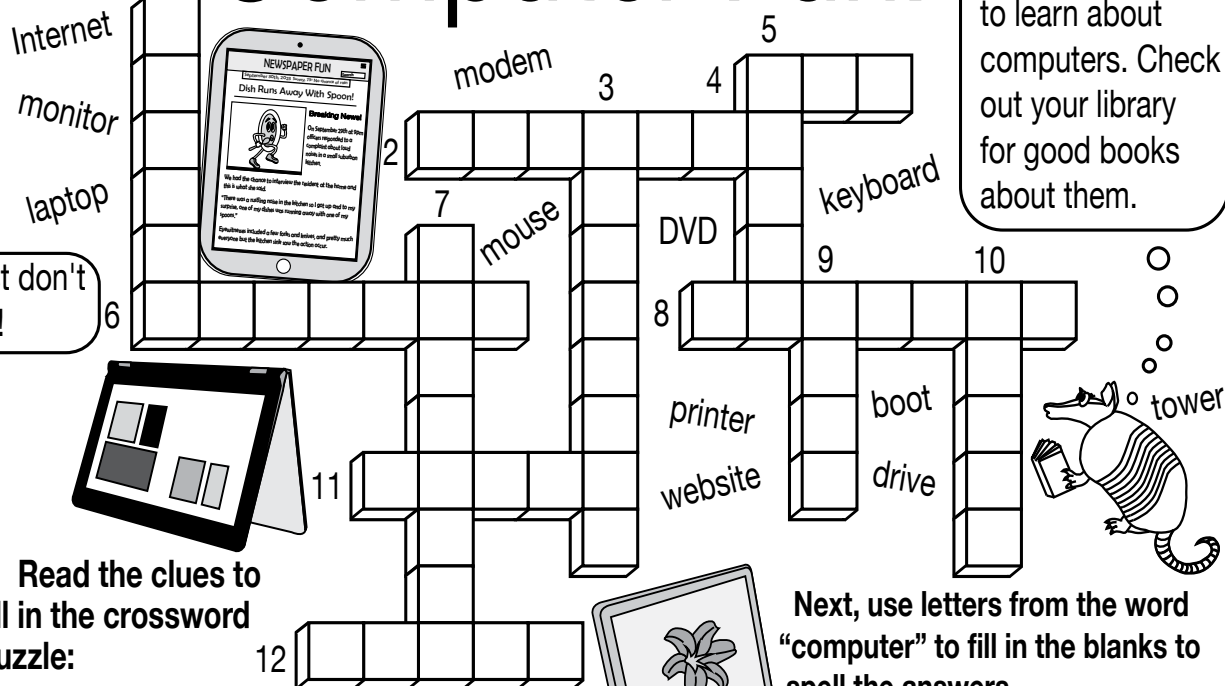


I really like my desktop computer with its large screen, but this year I need to be able to carry my computer to school and the library. So, I bought a brand new...

Use the letters below to spell out what Ellie bought:

O T L A P P

Computer Fun!



It's not hard to learn about computers. Check out your library for good books about them.

Read the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle:

Next, use letters from the word "computer" to fill in the blanks to spell the answers.

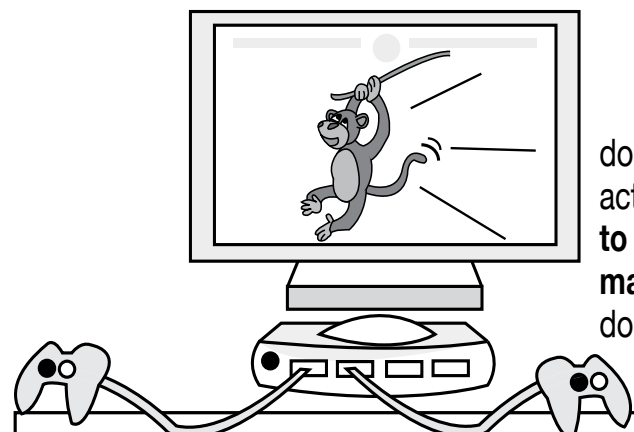
1. small computer that you can carry places
2. screen that shows what the computer is doing
3. computers all over the world sharing information
4. a CD, _____ or Blu-ray is a plastic disk used to store the information computers use to run games, movies, music and programs
5. the hard _____ or SSD holds saved information and programs
6. allows you to put your computer's information on paper
7. use this to type information into the computer
8. you can build pages for one of these
9. " _____ up" - slang for starting your computer
10. a computer's "brain" is in a box that's often called a _____
11. lets you move the pointer around the screen
12. connects your computer to the Internet

One is done for you.

t _ we _
la _ to _
m _ use
w _ bsit _
m _ nit _ r
DVD
k _ yb _ ard
In _ _ rne _
m o d e m
_ rin _ er

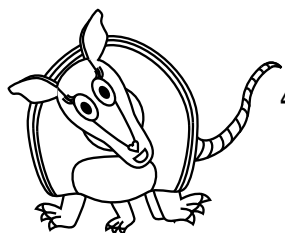
What Can You Do With a Computer?

Wow! There are so many things you can do with a computer. To create a list of fun activities, **match the first part below to the second part that makes sense.** One is done for you.



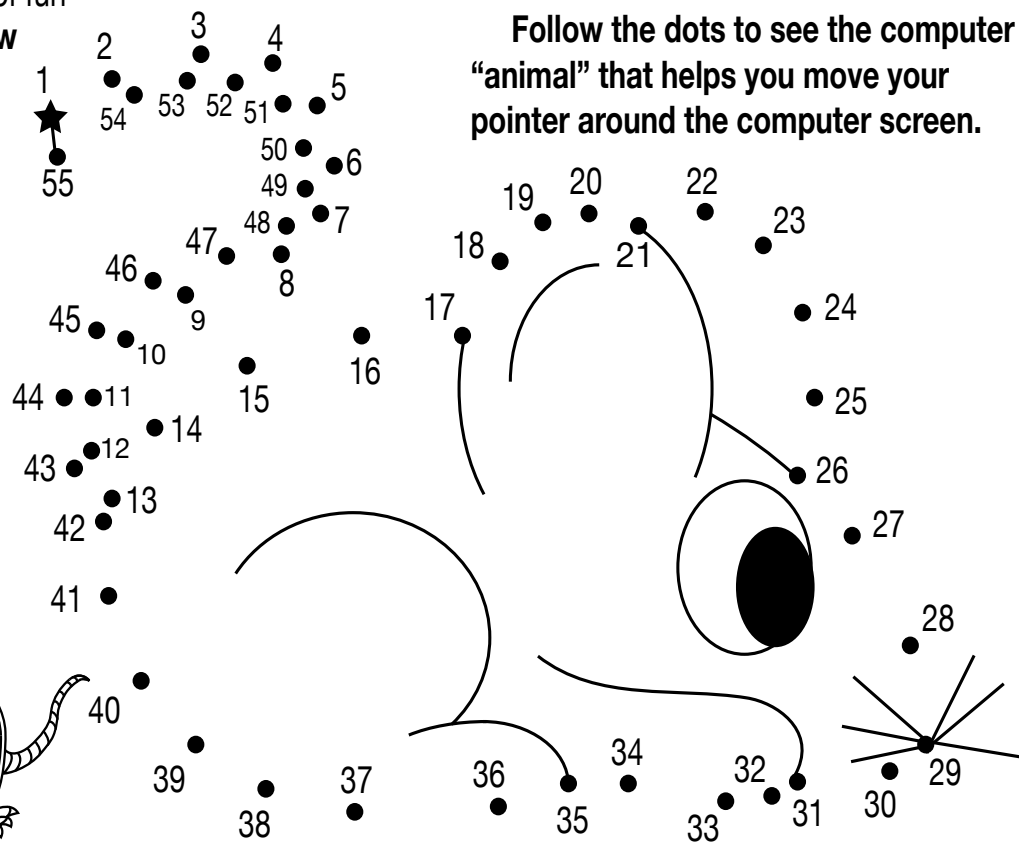
- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. chat or text | A. e-mails to family living far away |
| 2. send | B. cards, banners, posters |
| 3. do | C. to music |
| 4. listen | D. with friends |
| 5. watch | E. games |
| 6. play | F. your interests |
| 7. research | G. your own website |
| 8. write | H. a journal or diary |
| 9. build | I. movies |
| 10. print | J. homework |
| 11. video chat | K. a picture |
| 12. draw | L. for face-to-face conversations |

My library has computers that I can sign up to use. Check out yours!



Computer Animal!

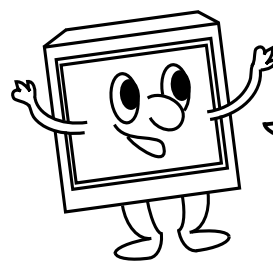
Follow the dots to see the computer "animal" that helps you move your pointer around the computer screen.



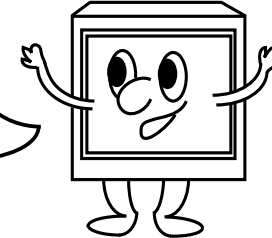
Computer Talk!

Let's talk like computers! Computers have their own language called **binary**. It is made up of just two numbers - **0** (zero) and **1** (one). This code lets computers "talk" to each other and exchange information. **Read the sentences below. Study each underlined code. Use the binary code to match it to the correct number:**

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Mom printed <u>00110</u> business cards. | A. 2 |
| 2. Dad played <u>00010</u> games. | B. 4 |
| 3. Sis chatted with <u>00100</u> friends. | C. 8 |
| 4. Grandma sent <u>01000</u> emails to family. | D. 6 |
| 5. Grandpa visited <u>00101</u> web sites. | E. 3 |
| 6. I listened to <u>00011</u> songs. | F. 5 |



011011011011011
Yakety-
Yakety-
Yak!



Binary Code: 00000 = 0 00001 = 1 00010 = 2 00011 = 3 00100 = 4 00101 = 5 00110 = 6 00111 = 7 01000 = 8 and so on...

Newspaper Fun! Created by Annimills LLC © 2023

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Litchfield Churches Join Together For Service Day

Members of Southside Church and New Life Community Church, both in Litchfield, joined together for a day of service projects on Sunday, Sept. 10. Their mission included passing out free cookies, doing yard work in the community, step and deck repair on local homes, writing letters and handing out care packages. After the service day, members of both churches enjoyed chili and fellowship together.

Hillsboro Music Program Seeks Community Patrons

The Hillsboro junior high and high school band and choir programs are seeking community patrons to help support their efforts in the coming school year.

Throughout the year, both programs incur expenses, including producing a musical, purchasing school instruments and sheet music, purchasing and upkeep of marching band uniforms and choir robes, purchasing awards, festival fees, paying accompanists and more.

This is the second year the music programs have asked for patrons to help support them.

Sponsor levels include

\$10 for bronze, \$25 for silver, \$50 for gold, \$100 for platinum and \$500 for diamond. This year's sponsors will be printed in the programs for the band and choir concerts, as well as the 2024 musical, *Something Rotten*.

Monetary donations may be sent to HAMP (Hillsboro Association of Musical Parents) at Hillsboro High School, c/o Daniel Drake, 522 E. Tremont Street, Hillsboro, IL 62049.

For more information, contact Band Director Daniel Drake at ddrake@hillsboroschools.net or Choir Director Amy Lemons at alemons@hillsboroschools.net.



Nokomis Library Honors Grandparents At Event

Approximately 50 kids and their grandparents joined the fun for a special event in celebration of Grandparents' Day on Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Nokomis Public Library. Participants enjoyed story time, crafts and refreshments with their grandparents. For more information on upcoming events at the library, follow their page on Facebook or visit www.nokomispl.org.

WANTED

(SOMETHING PRINTED?)



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or stop by 431 S. Main in Hillsboro.

LANCER LINES • by Kaylee Gerlach at Lincolnwood

Lincolnwood Announces 'Peter Pan, Jr.' As Musical



The Lincolnwood Lancers are in full swing with their in-school activities while taking on various roles outside of school. For example, this past weekend you could find numerous LHS students up and down Main Street at the Raymond Celebration. Some were working as volunteers, while others were there to support our community and fellow classmates as they competed in the pageants.

Multiple Lincolnwood students were candidates in the Miss Independence Pageant. Congratulations to Kirsten Pope as she was named the 2023 Miss Independence Day Queen! Kirsten is a junior at Lincolnwood, and is very active in and out of school and will do a great job of representing our community! The other winners were Junior Miss Independence Paislee Krager, Little Miss Hadleigh Millburg and Mr. Muscle Jesse Carron. Have a great year and Congratulations to all!

Since we live in a farming community, we have probably noticed the role of our local farmers, as we have finally made it to harvest season! Fall is a very special season for me since I live on a row crop farm

in our school district. Many students will go to school during the day, then return to the family farm to work in the evenings.

Like other area farmers, our family works hard to get our crops out of the field as quickly and safely as possible. Even though it is a busy time of year that involves many late nights, local farmers like my grandpa, dad, uncle and cousin work tirelessly away from their families so they can help feed the world.

Please be careful when driving on the roads this harvest season. Our farmers are trying to do their best to stay as safe as possible so they can return home to their families. Let's be extra patient and give those farmers the extra room that they need. Be sure to give a friendly smile and a wave! It can make their whole day!

One role inside of school for many LHS students are our sports teams! This week, our teams will all have a busy week at home and on the road.

First up is the Lincolnwood golf team. Both the boys and girls golf teams will be hosting back-to-back matches at Shoal Creek on Thursday, Sept. 21, and Friday, Sept. 22.

On Friday, both teams will be celebrating their senior players during the traditional Senior Night activities at Shoal Creek. Senior players

are Kaylee Gerlach (Lincolnwood), Lance Weitekamp (Morrisonville), Brady Schmedeke (Morrisonville), Patrick Lipe (Morrisonville), Griffin Boblitt (Pawnee) and Zack Waldeck (Pawnee).

To end their regular season, the girls golf team will travel to Edgewood Golf Course, while the boys will travel to Shambole on Monday, Sept. 25.

On Wednesday, Sept. 27, the boys will tee off at the Alton Regional playing at the Spencer T. Olin Golf Course. The girls will return to Edgewood Golf Course on Thursday, Sept. 28 for their regional game. Best of Luck to the Lancers golf teams as they enter the post season!

In the week ahead, the Lancer soccer team will be taking on Riverton on Friday, Sept. 22 at Terry Todd Field in Raymond. The team will then make their way to visit the Athens Warriors as they match up on Monday, Sept. 25. Best of Luck to the LHS soccer team at home and on the road this week!

The Pawnee-Lincolnwood football team will also be on the road this week as they travel to Martinsville to take on the Martinsville High School Bluestreaks! Kickoff time is 7 p.m.

The Lincolnwood Lancer volleyball team will travel

south to Litchfield as they take on the Purple Panthers this Monday, Sept. 25 for the annual "Pink Out" game! This game raises money for breast cancer awareness for those affected by this terrible disease. Be sure to support the Lancers and the Panthers while wearing your pink gear, as all funds raised will be donated to the Montgomery County Breast Cancer Support Group (MCBCSG).

Following this amazing game, the ladies will travel to Nokomis for an MSM Conference match-up on Tuesday, Sept. 26. Best of Luck to Lady Lancers this week!

In other roles around LHS, the Lincolnwood Drama Club announced their spring production of "Peter Pan, Jr.!" This year's performance will be held on April 5, 6 and 7, in the Lincolnwood High School Auditorium. Mark your calendars, as it's going to be a great show!

Thank you for reading another week of Lancer Lines!

To recognize the LHS golf team's Senior Night this week, this quote is from golf legend Bobby Jones, "Golf is the closest game to the game we call life. You get bad breaks from good shots; you get good breaks from bad shots - but you have to play the ball where it lies." Have a great week, Lancers!

TOPPER TALK • by Annabelle Wright at Hillsboro High

Toppers Plan Community Pep Rally On Saturday



Hello Toppers!

This Saturday, Sept. 23, is HHS's community wide pep assembly. All fall athletes, cheerleaders, dance team members and band members will be introduced. The cheerleaders are performing, the dance team is dancing and the band is playing. After the pep assembly is the powder puff football game. Come support you HHS students!

Homecoming is on Sept. 30! The theme has finally been released, Neon Night! Along with a multitude of fun neon decorations, there will be glow in the dark Bingo during the dance.

Congratulations to all members of the Homecoming court and class representatives. For the senior class, the students elected to Homecoming court are Jesse Balla, Lily Churchwell, Chloe Martincic, Ava Pollard, Kinley Richardson, Annabelle Wright, Ian Anderson, Dylan Lessman, Mitchell Lowe, Landon Reincke, Jace Stewart and

Landon Summers. The junior representatives are Lauryn Miller and Austin Newingham. The sophomores are Claire Matthews and Olan Lentz, and the freshmen are Anne Buske and Jaxon Wittenmyer.

A friendly reminder, next week is Homecoming dress-up week! The themes of each day are as follows: Monday is Local Eats and Treats, Tuesday is Recreation/Entertainment, Wednesday is Old Settlers, Thursday is 200 Years ago / Pioneer Day, and Friday is School Spirit Day! Remember to have fun with these themes and be creative!

Another congratulations to any choir member attending the Millikin festival! The Millikin Vocal Festival is a choir festival that students can be nominated to by their teacher. After they are submitted, even less of the applicants are accepted to attend. These students will spend two days preparing for a concert at the end of the festival. Congratulations to anyone going!

First up on the list is Topper golf! And of course, ladies first! Their first match of this week is Sept. 21st at Vandalia Country Club.

On Monday, the girls will travel to Indian Springs Golf Course for their SCC Open. The following day, they have their last regular match of the season. They will travel to Carlinville Country Course to play against Gilespie, Carlinville and Southwestern. Good luck, ladies! Enjoy your last few matches!

Next up is boys golf! The boys are matching with the girls this week, also traveling to Indian Springs Golf Course for their SCC Open on Monday and also playing at Carlinville Country Course on Tuesday. Good luck, boys! Have a great end of the season!

The girls volleyball team has a game tonight, Sept. 21, at home against North Mac. Their next game is Monday, Sept. 25, at Nokomis High School. Next, they have the Morrisonville Open tournament on Wednesday, Sept. 27. Good luck, ladies!

Next up is Topper tennis! On Thursday, Sept. 21, there is an away match at Jersey Community High School. A select few of the girls will be attending the Centralia Invite on Saturday, Sept. 23.

To start off the next week, the tennis team has three away games. The first is Monday, Sept. 25, at Vandalia High School, then Wednesday, Sept. 27, at Mt. Vernon High School, then Thursday, Sept. 28, at Greenville High School. Good luck, ladies!

Soccer is next in the lineup! They start off with a game on Thursday, Sept. 21, at Pana High School. They are playing Riverton High School on Saturday, Sept. 23, at home. The game will begin at 10 a.m. Their next match is senior night! Tuesday, Sept. 26, is the soccer senior night, so it is a home game against Carlinville. Tuesday, Sept. 27, is another home game, this time against Effingham. Good luck, boys!

Last, but not least, is Topper football! The varsity football team will be playing against Litchfield in Litchfield this Friday. This game is sure to be a great one, considering the deep rivalry between the teams. If you have the time, be sure to travel over and support them! Go Toppers!

Have a great week, and I'll see you next Thursday!

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DRAGON BEAT • by Ella Schaaque at HJHS

Girls Basketball Tips Off For Dragons



Welcome back to another week of the Dragon Beat!

Hello, Dragons! To end last week our softball girls took part in their sectional championship on Saturday! Unfortunately, they lost, but battled to make it a good game against Williamsville. The score was 8-4, but they had a great season, only falling a game short of advancing to the IESA state softball elite eight.

Now that softball season has ended, our seventh and eighth grade girls basketball season has begun! For the past couple weeks the girls have been practicing their basketball skills with Coach Buerkett and Coach White, preparing to play a great

first game.

On Tuesday, our girls traveled to Rochester for their first game of the season. The seventh grade girls came up with a win to start the season. Unfortunately, the eighth grade team wasn't so lucky as they took a loss, but ended the game with a good battle in the fourth quarter. Both teams have their first home game Monday evening Sept. 25. The seventh grade tip off is at 6 p.m. with eighth grade to follow against North Mac.

Due to unforeseen events, school pictures were not today. Hang on to your forms as a rescheduled date will be coming.

We're already halfway through the first quarter! It flew by!

The Student Council Spirit Committee has been planning a fun dress-up week to help in the celebration of Home-

coming week and Hillsboro's 200th birthday. Monday is Local Eats and Treats; Tuesday is Favorite Recreation; Wednesday is anything Old Settlers; Thursday is Celebrating Age or Dress for a Birthday Party; and Friday is School Spirit day, so wear orange and black or green and black.

To all the students, please do not share water bottles, wash your hands and avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose. Many illnesses have been going around so we need to do everything we can to keep us healthy.

That's a wrap for this week of the school Dragon Beat. Come back next week to hear about more exciting stuff happening at HJHS.

Remember to spread positivity, always try your hardest and be yourself!



Glenshaw Visits Hillsboro Library

Nearly every seat was filled as Hillsboro Public Library welcomed award winning naturalist Mark H. X. Glenshaw to town for an impressive presentation about owls in St. Louis' Forest Park. Glenshaw's presentation dived into the behavior of owls, collected from years of observations.

Journal-News/Isaiah Atkins



Democrats Raise \$1,403 For Memorial

The Montgomery County Democrat Central Committee raised \$1,403 for the planned Coffeen Veterans Memorial on Saturday, Sept. 16, at Washington Park in Coffeen. Hot, grilled hamburgers and hot dogs were on the menu, along with chips, cookies and drinks. In the photo on the left, Tim Fogle mans the grill while event organizers Donna and Chris Dahler serve meals. On the right, Coffeen Mayor Robert Wessell thanks organizer Donna Dahler for the donation.

Journal-News Photo



Farmersville To Host Trunk Or Treat Event

Mark your calendars as the Farmersville Revitalization Committee is once again hosting a Trunk or Treat event this Halloween

season.

This year's event will be held on Sunday, Oct. 29, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Farmersville Park. Children of

all ages are invited to come in costume, visit decorated vehicles on display and collect candy for an afternoon of fun.

Litchfield Schools Remember 9/11

In remembrance of the attacks on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, physical education students at Litchfield High School embraced a special challenge on Monday, Sept. 11. Students had PE classes outside and attempted to climb 110 flights of stairs to remember the first responders who climbed the stairs of the World Trade Center on that day. A total of 43 students completed the 9/11 challenge at LHS.

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After 90 minutes of soccer that personified the intensity of the Hillsboro/Lincolnwood soccer rivalry, the two teams came together for a photo with the Herschel family at the inaugural Grace Cup in Hillsboro on Monday, Sept. 18. Named after the late Grace Herschel, who passed away from infantile neuroaxonal dystrophy in May 2021, the game raises awareness of INAD and helps continue Grace's legacy. The game ended in a 0-0 tie, meaning that the traveling trophy will spend the next year with the Herschel family. **James Ryan/NokoPhoto**

CENTER AND GUARD • by Kyle Herschelmann

GRACE WINS



A few hours before the Grace Cup on Monday, Lincolnwood boys basketball coach Matt Millburg texted me, "Enjoy your evening! Grace wins!"

I don't think either of us thought that those words were a prediction... and that he'd be right.

After 90 minutes, the Lincolnwood and Hillsboro soccer teams walked off the field with the score tied at 0-0. That's a boring score for a game that was anything but boring.

In front of one of the biggest crowds you'll see for a regular season high school soccer game, with fans from both teams lining the length of the field, the Toppers and Lancers launched attack after attack on the goal, only to be turned away by the opposing netminder.

Hillsboro's Mitchell Lowe and Lincolnwood's Carson Contreras (by way of co-op partner Pawnee) were tested repeatedly and turned in phenomenal performances. They had some help from their defensive ends, but the

two earned MVP honors for the match.

The original plan was to award a Grace Filled Journey scarf to the MVP, like we did during the Grace Cup all-star game. So I brought one. Just one. Mitchell will get his soon. It was just a minor wrench thrown into the plans by the tie.

As good as the two goalies were, there were plenty of close calls. Eight minutes into the game Hillsboro's Clayton Rufus sent a cross across the mouth of the goal that skidded past the Lancer defense and in front of forward Nico Clark. Clark nearly managed to open up the scoring, but Lincolnwood weathered the storm and launched an attack of their own. Working the ball down the field, Ian Keller drilled a shot on frame that clanged off the cross bar, inches from making it 1-0 in the Lancers favor.

That was the first ball that hit the iron, but not the last. With 14 minutes to go in the first half, Hillsboro part a hard shot on frame that hit the far post, then smacked Contreras in the face, one of the hazards of playing keeper. The goalie's pain may have been a blessing in



Lincolnwood's Reece Lohman tries to clear the ball out of the Lancers' end before Hillsboro's Hunter Payne (#12) can pounce on the scoring opportunity during the Grace Cup on Sept. 18. Lohman and the Lancers sported purple headbands in honor of the late Grace Herschelmann, the game's namesake. **James Ryan/NokoPhoto**

disguise. If Contreras isn't in the way of that ricochet, then the ball bounces toward the center of the field, where the Toppers were waiting, instead of toward the sideline, where Lincolnwood was able to track down the loose ball and clear it out of harm's way.

The last best chance of the first half came with 40

seconds to play, when Lincolnwood was whistled for a foul about 25 yards from the net. As Mark Mattson lined up to take the free kick for the Toppers, the Lancers built their wall, a little closer than the 10 yards of space required between the kick and the defense. Ok, a lot closer.

Continued on 4B



Hillsboro goalkeeper Mitchell Lowe plucks a ball out of the air before Lincolnwood's Austyn Hefley (#9) can get a piece of it during the second half of the Grace Cup in Hillsboro on Monday, Sept. 18. Lowe and his goalie counterpart from Lincolnwood, Carson Contreras, were the MVPs of the inaugural traveling trophy game. **James Ryan/NokoPhoto**



The MSM Conference traveling trophy for volleyball hasn't had to go too far lately thanks to 105 straight conference wins for the Lutheran Crusaders. That streak came to an end on Tuesday, Sept. 19, with Nokomis' three-set victory over the parochial powerhouse, allowing the Redskins to bring the trophy back with them to Montgomery County. In front, from the left are Maddison DeWerff, Grace King, Presley Mehochko, Camryn Engelman and Becca Hill. In the back are Remi Tester, Reagan Jonas, Elizabeth Hill, Kinley Stolte, Mackenzie Mehochko and Addison Glenn.

Nokomis Slays The Crusaders

by Kyle Herschelmann

With four state trophies, 10 regional titles and 438 wins in 604 games, Coach Katie McCulley's Springfield Lutheran volleyball teams have been the gold standard for area in Class 1A.

In the MSM Conference,

the Crusaders have somehow been even better, having won the conference title every year in which they've been a member since 2001 (they were independent in 2014-15 and 2015-16 before returning to the MSM in 2017).

While it has been difficult to pinpoint Lutheran's last

MSM Conference loss, that moment had to come before McCulley began coaching her alma mater in 2007 as the 2000 LuHi grad had a conference record of 105-0 going into their game with Nokomis on Sept. 19. And now it's 105-1.

Continued on 4B

Panthers Hold Off Cavies, Toppers

It was senior night for the Hillsboro High School golf program as the Toppers took a moment before their match on Sept. 19, to honor it's three soon-to-be graduates.

Austin Loskot, Carson Walker and Samantha Frailey were recognized along with their parents on Tuesday as the postseason quickly approaches.

The celebration continued on the course for one of the teams in attendance as the Litchfield golf team were low scorers in both the boys and girls' meets.

On the boys' side, the Panthers eked out a win over Carlinville and the Toppers, shooting a 160 to beat the Cavaliers by three strokes and Hillsboro by 10. Gillespie also played at the Hillsboro Country Club, shooting a 209 as a team.

Litchfield's consistency and excellence on the course shined through as both Tug Schwab and A.J. Odle both shot under 40 and Sam Schwab hit that number on the nose. Tug Schwab came in two strokes below his younger brother with a 38, while Odle added a 39.

Brawly Jacobs had the Panthers' fourth scoring round with a 43, but teammates Ian Otto and Tucker Maguire weren't far behind with a pair of 45s.

Carlinville was primed to hand Litchfield just its second loss of the season as they

got a 36 from Tate Duckels, a 40 from Colin Pope and a 41 from Carter Zilm, but Litchfield gained some space in the fourth slot as Jacobs' 43 was three strokes better than Aaron Cordani's 46.

Hillsboro put up a fight on their home turf as well, with just two strokes separating



Litchfield senior Tug Schwab shot a 2-over-par 38 on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at the Hillsboro Country Club to help the Panthers to a pair of close wins over Hillsboro and Carlinville. **Journal-News/Kyle Herschelmann**

their first and fourth players. Colton Weiss held the top spot for the Toppers with a 41, while Tycen Thacker, Carson Walker and Austin Loskot all shot 43 on the day.

The showdown between the South Central Conference clubs was a good warm-up for the conference tournament on Sept. 25. With Vandalia and Staunton also having solid seasons, the 2023 version of the event at Indian Springs is one of the most wide open in recent years.

Girls Golf

The girls' match was a little less dramatic as Litchfield was the only team with enough players for a team.

The Panthers shot a 248 for their round, with Kennedy Isaacs and Keeley Tabor both shooting 58s and Faith Ellinger and Aryn Dooley both shooting 66s.

Sam Frailey was the lone Hiltopper to hit the course and shot a 57. That was good enough for second individually behind Carlinville's Kristilyn LeVora, who shot a 53.

The two Montgomery County teams were scheduled to be at the Vandalia Country Club on Thursday, Sept. 21, but Hillsboro opted out of the match, leaving the Vandals, Litchfield, Roxana and Greenville.

Continued on 4B

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Sports Calendar

Hillsboro Hiltoppers
Thursday, September 21
 4 p.m. - Girls Tennis at Jerseyville
 4:30 p.m. - Boys Soccer at Pana
 5 p.m. - Volleyball hosts North Mac
 6 p.m. - Freshman Football hosts Triad
Friday, September 22
 7 p.m. - Varsity Football at Litchfield
Saturday, September 23
 9 a.m. - Girls Tennis at Centralia
 Annies Invitational
 10 a.m. - Boys Soccer hosts Riverton
 Noon - JV Boys Soccer at Greenville

Nokomis Redskins
Thursday, September 21
 6 p.m. - Volleyball at Tri-City
 6 p.m. - Ramsey-Nokomis Golf vs. Altamont at Ramsey Lake Golf Course
Friday, September 22
 7 p.m. - Varsity Football hosts Tri-City

Litchfield Purple Panthers
Thursday, September 21
 3:30 p.m. - Boys Golf vs. Jerseyville at Jerseyville Country Club
 4 p.m. - Girls Golf vs. Vandalia, Hillsboro, Roxana, Greenville at Vandalia Country Club
 5 p.m. - Boys Soccer hosts Athens
 5 p.m. - Volleyball at Pana
Friday, September 22
 7 p.m. - Varsity Football hosts Hillsboro
Saturday, September 23
 9:45 a.m. - Cross Country at Springfield Invite at Lincoln Park
 10 a.m. - Boys Soccer at Civic Memorial

Lincolnwood Lancers
Thursday, September 21
 4 p.m. - Girls Golf vs. North Mac at Shoal Creek
 4 p.m. - Boys Golf vs. Auburn, North Mac at Shoal Creek
Friday, September 22
 4 p.m. - Girls Golf vs. Auburn, Northwestern at Shoal Creek
 4 p.m. - Boys Golf vs. Taylorville, Northwestern at Shoal Creek
 4:30 p.m. - Soccer at Riverton

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It's Hillsboro, It's Litchfield, It's Week Five For Football

Questions abound before the Hillsboro at Litchfield varsity football game tomorrow, Sept. 22; known answers aren't as obvious. The weatherman Wednesday afternoon said rain was probable Thursday and perhaps possible Friday. Which team would benefit the most if the field and the ball are wet? Will the contest be as high-scoring as last year's Hillsboro 48 - Litchfield 36 win, also in Litchfield. Will either team rely on the rushing game to dominate? The Toppers have run more than they've passed this season; Litchfield has both thrown the ball (Tate Dobrinich is an experienced quarterback; tight end Carson Saathoff and wide receivers Martavius Jones and Keenan Powell are quality threats) and run well (AJ Sypherd has been

hard to contain the last two seasons). The Panthers have impressive size in the line; Harrison Thomas is a 6'4", 250 pound lineman, while the Hancock boys, Mannix at 6'4", 315 pounds, and Hunter at 6'1", 250 pounds, are among the 15 men on the roster who weigh 200 pounds or more. The Toppers seemed to jell last weekend against Gillespie; they too have size, speed and experience. Their common opponent thus far this season is Greenville, who is currently 4-0 heading into their clash with Pana tomorrow. No matter the weather conditions, no matter the respective strengths of the two teams, no matter the homecoming atmosphere on Litchfield's field, it's the place to be for the 7 p.m. kickoff.

Castleberry Medals Twice For Lancers

Zeke Castleberry earned medalist honors in both of Lincolnwood's matches to start the week as the Lancer boys golf team improved their record to 28-8 this season. Castleberry shot a 1-under-par 35 on Monday, Sept. 18, in Staunton, to share medalist honors with Rochester's Talon Sperry and Dalton King. Castleberry had six pars, a bogey and two birdies, which came back-to-back on the third and fourth holes at Timber Lakes Golf Course. Brady Schmedeke was just behind his teammate with an even-par 36, matching Preston Denney of Staunton to come in just behind the trio of medalists. Schmedeke also had six pars on the day, with a birdie on the par-4 sixth hole. Both Bryce Cowdrey and Lance Weitekamp shot 42 for their rounds as they closed out the Lincolnwood scorecard. Cowdrey had four straight pars on the fifth through eighth holes, while Weitekamp had three straight pars on holes two, three and four, plus one on the par-4 eighth hole. Zach Waldeck was right behind the lead pack with a 43, posting pars on the second third and ninth holes, while Jonah Elvidge shot a 52, with pars on the first and third holes. While the Lancers and Rockets scored the top individual spots, Staunton claimed the team win with a 149 on their home course. Lincolnwood was six strokes back with a 155, followed by

Rochester with a 160 and Gillespie with a 190. **At Country Hills** After finishing second on Monday, the Lancers picked up a win on Tuesday, Sept. 19, with Castleberry leading the way again. Playing at Country Hills Golf Course in Greenville, Castleberry shot a 3-over-par 39 to help the Lancers to a 171, with wins over Mt. Pulaski (190), Greenville (201) and Havana (203). The Pawnee product had a string of three straight birdies on the second, third and fourth holes, with a par on number seven to boot. Bryce Cowdrey was second for the Lancers with a 42, with three pars in the first four holes and nothing worse than a bogey all day. Lance Weitekamp and Luke Pope had Lincolnwood's other two scoring rounds, a pair of 45s, as Weitekamp parred number seven and Pope had a par on the second hole and a birdie on the fifth hole. Brady Schmedeke and Zach Waldeck tied for Lincolnwood's fifth spot with a pair of 47s. Schmedeke had a birdie on two and a par on six, while Waldeck had a par on seven and the hole of the day on four, taking down the par-5 in just three strokes for an eagle. The Lancers also took advantage of the opportunity to have nine junior varsity players hit the course. The number one JV squad consisting of Jared Klein (47), Griffin Boblitt (48), Jonah Elvidge (49) and Kade Os-

terholt (51) shot a 195 as a foursome, which would have been third behind Mt. Pulaski in the varsity results. The number two JV squad shot a 231 as a foursome, with Liam Page shooting a 56, followed by Zane Whalen and Hudson Wort carding a pair of 57s and Patrick Lipe shooting a 61. Luke Armentrout also got a JV round in and shot a 65. **Lincolnwood Girls** The Lancer girls golf team was also at Country Hills Tuesday, but were the only school with a full team there. Still, the Lancers shot a solid 207 on the day, finishing just four strokes behind Havana in the boys standings. Carly Armentrout shot a 47 to take medalist honors, while Rian Deardorff and Jenna Matli followed with a 51 and a 52. Kaylee Gerlach had the fourth scoring round with a 57, while Anna Jones and Abby Norris were two strokes behind their senior teammate with a pair of 59s. The Lancers had five pars on the day, with Armentrout collecting two of those and Gerlach, Matli and Deardorff each posting one. Both Lincolnwood golf teams will be at home for their next two matches as they play Auburn and North Mac on Sept. 21, at Shoal Creek, followed by senior night on Sept. 22, against Auburn, Taylorville and Northwestern. **Sept. 18 at Staunton** *Timber Lakes - Par 36*
Boys Team Results: 1. Staunton 149; 2. Lincolnwood 155; 3. Rochester 160; 4. Gillespie 190.

Medalists: Zeke Castleberry (Lincolnwood) 35; Talon Sperry (Rochester) 35; Dalton King (Rochester) 35.
Staunton (149) - Preston Denney 36, Broc Best 36, Bryce Coalsen 37, Owen Rizzi 40, Luke Goldsich 44, Drake Billings 54.
Lincolnwood (155) - Zeke Castleberry 35, Brady Schmedeke 36, Lance Weitekamp 42, Bryce Cowdrey 42, Zach Waldeck 43, Jonah Elvidge 52.
Rochester (160) - Talon Sperry 35, Dalton King 35, Jacob McCloud 44, Eathon Liston 46, Aiden Culbertson 49, Cameron Sweeney 50.
Gillespie (190) - Heiden Kellebrew 40, Bryce Buhs 48, Josh Feeley 50, Owen Schweppe 52, Adam Peterson 52, Cole Katich 53.
Sept. 19 at Greenville *Country Hills - Par 36*
Boys Team Results: 1. Lincolnwood 171; 2. Mt. Pulaski 190; 3. Greenville 201; 4. Havana 203.
Medalist: Zeke Castleberry (Lincolnwood) 39.
Lincolnwood (171) - Zeke Castleberry 39, Bryce Cowdrey 42, Lance Weitekamp 45, Luke Pope 45, Brady Schmedeke 47, Zach Waldeck 47.
Mt. Pulaski (190) - Aaron Cuznik 47, Franklin Wade 47, Carter Clark 47, Clay Leonard 49, Nolan Deibert 53, Beau Tschantz 55.
Greenville (201) - Sawyer Hill 47, Jacob Heyen 50, Jacob Younkin 51, Wyatt Gleason 53, Ethan Reichling 58, Michael Mitchell 60.
Havana (203) - Thurston Sisson 45, Chapin Miles 49, Remington Schleyhahn 53, Shooter Garlich 56, Ryan Showalter 63, Ryan Gilson 66.
Lincolnwood JV #1 (195) - Jared Klein 47, Griffin Boblitt 48, Jonah Elvidge 49, Kade Osterholt 51.
Lincolnwood JV #2 (231) - Liam Page 46, Hudson Wort 57, Zane Whalen 57, Patrick Lipe 61, Luke Armentrout 65.
Records: Lincolnwood Boys (28-8).
Girls Results
Lincolnwood (207) - Carly Armentrout 47, Rian Deardorff 51, Jenna Matli 52, Kaylee Gerlach 57, Anna Jones 59, Abby Norris 59.
Records: Lincolnwood Girls (14-3).

Golf Tournament Continues To Help Causes Important To Krager Family

Over the last five years the Austin Krager Memorial Golf Outing has raised more than \$22,000 for causes that meant a lot to the tournament's namesake and his family. Krager, who passed away four years ago at the age of 18, had found his niche at the Capital Area Career Center, the career and technical center that caters to high school students around the Springfield area. He was preparing for a career in the auto body field before the accident that took his life, but thanks to the contributions from the golf tournament, others that have similar dreams can pursue them. The Panhandle School District special education programs have also benefited in Krager's honor. During his memorial service, friends and family joked that the only reason Austin made it

as far in school as he did was because of the work put in by his sister Skylar, who is now a special education teacher in the district. The proceeds also benefited Montgomery County Fair Queen Pageant and their golf outing, and to the Montgomery County Invitational Grace Volleyball Tournament. All of these groups are better because of Austin. Forty teams of golfers hit the links at Indian Springs on Sept. 10, for this year's outing, with Mother Nature being a little more cooperating than last year. "What an amazing day! We couldn't have asked for a better day and amazing weather!" said Shay Jones, who organizes the tournament with her husband Matt. "On behalf of Mark, Jill, Skylar, Maddie, Cassie and the whole Krager family we

want to thank each of you for coming out today! We want to thank all of our volunteers - without your help we would not be able to do it all! Thank you to the Hillsboro Lions Club for coming and grilling the pork loin chops. Thank you to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department for coming out with your golf gun! Everyone loved it and we hope to have you back again next year!" The top two teams this year were led by two of the outing's beneficiaries: Raymond Grade School Principal Joe Webb and Wes Aymer, the director at Capital Area Career Center. Both teams donated their winnings back to the cause. Webb also won the chipping game on hole four and donated those winnings back, as did Ron Reynolds, who won the 50/50. Other winners on the day were Bryan Jones' team,

who took third overall; Jay Ronald's team, which won the skins; and the trio of Matt Krager, Reese Snyder and Landon Ferrill, who tied for the top spot in the chipping game on hole number seven. Ashley Webb and Carl Goebel won the longest drive contests, taking home a \$50 gift card each, while Matt Krager and Shelby Hattenbach won the closest to the pin contest for another pair of \$50 gift cards. "We want to thank everyone who bid on the silent auction items and we thank everyone who donated items. We also want to thank all of the hole sponsors," Jones said. Plans are already being made for next year's event, which will be held on Sept. 8, 2024. To keep up with the outing, go to www.facebook.com/akmemorialgolffair.



Montgomery County Fair Jr. Miss Nataleigh Jackson and Little Miss Karsyn Jones pose with this year's winning team at the Austin Krager Memorial Golf Open on Sept. 10. From the left are Ryan Webb, Kevin Young, Ashley Webb and Joe Webb.



Montgomery County Fair Jr. Miss Nataleigh Jackson and Little Miss Karsyn Jones present Wes Aymer of the Capital Area Career Center with the second place winnings.



Montgomery County Fair Jr. Miss Nataleigh Jackson and Little Miss Karsyn Jones present Bryan Jones with the third place winnings.



More than \$22,000 has been raised for the Capital Area Career Center, Panhandle School District special education and other charities during the five years in which the Austin Krager Memorial Golf Tournament has been held. Pictured above are Krager's family and representatives from two of the organizations the outing has helped. From the left are Austin's sister Skylar (Krager) Thomas with his nephew, Drew Austin; tournament organizer Matt Jones; Wes Aymer of Capital Area Career Center; Lincolnwood Principal Ken Schuster; Austin's parents Mark and Jill Krager, Austin's sisters Cassie and Maddie Krager and Austin's nephew, Crue Anthony Walker (left) and Drew Austin Thomas



Friends and family of the late Austin Krager donated their time and talents to the memorial golf outing that bears his name on Sunday, Sept. 10. In the five years the tournament has been going on, more than \$22,000 has been raised for causes near and dear to Austin and the Krager Family.

Panthers Take Step Toward SCC Title

The Litchfield-Gillespie boys soccer team's path to a South Central Conference title got a little less bumpy on Tuesday, Sept. 19, as the Panthers knocked off Carlinville 2-1 in Litchfield.

The Panthers had fallen to Carlinville on Aug. 30, in the third place game of the Kickoff Classic by a 1-0 final score, but that was Litchfield's last loss as they peeled off seven straight wins going into Tuesday's game with the Cavaliers.

The dynamic scoring duo of Drake Gasperson and Landon Wernsing handled the scoring again as each scored a goal, with Wernsing assisting on Gasperson's score. Cooper Martin got the win in net for the Panthers, who improved to 10-2 overall

and 5-0 in the South Central Conference.

That leaves three conference games left for the Panthers as they play at home against Vandalia (0-12, 0-4) on Sept. 26, at Greenville (7-4, 3-1) on Sept. 28, and at Southwestern (2-5, 2-3) on Oct. 3. If they win out, it would be their first title under the Litchfield banner since 1999, having last won a share of the conference as Gillespie in 2020.

Before the conference picture is sorted out, Litchfield hosts Athens on Thursday, Sept. 21, and plays at Civic Memorial on Sept. 23.

Sept. 19 at Litchfield
Litchfield 2, Carlinville 1
Goals: Litchfield - Drake Gasperson 1, Landon Wernsing 1. **Assists:** Litchfield - Landon Wernsing 1. **Records:** Litchfield (10-2, 5-0); Vandalia (5-5-1, 2-2).

Litchfield Volleyball Gets Two SCC Wins

The Litchfield High School volleyball team improved to 3-0 in the South Central Conference with a pair of wins over Southwestern and Vandalia, sandwiching a loss to Metro-East Lutheran on Monday.

On Thursday, Sept. 14, the Panthers hosted Southwestern at Simmons Gym and picked up a 25-19 victory in the opening set. The Piasa Birds got off to a hot start in the second set in hopes of forcing a third set, but Litchfield battled back from an 18-10 deficit to win 26-24 for their sixth victory of the season.

Annika Rhodes led the Panthers with seven kills and three aces from the service line, while also contributing three blocks and 13 digs. Amy Frerichs led

the team in digs with 18 and had two aces, while Kendall Stewart had eight digs on the night. In addition to Rhodes' kill count, Megan Lee had five kills and Gina Painter added four. Avery Stewart handled setting duties, dishing out 18 assists.

The Panthers made another bid for a home win on Monday, Sept. 18, but fell to Metro-East Lutheran 25-23, 25-19.

Megan Lee had a team-high six kills in the loss, followed by Gina Painter with four and Annika Rhodes with three. Avery Stewart added in two kills and had a team-high 13 assists. Defensively, Amy Frerichs had 10 digs, with Rhodes posting eight. Kendall Stewart added in eight digs and had the team lead in aces with two.

On Tuesday in Vandalia, the Panthers were on the other side of a comeback attempt in the second set. After Litchfield won 25-14 in the first set, the Vandals tried to force a third set and kept it close before losing 25-23 in the second set.

Now 7-5 on the season and 3-0 in the South Central Conference, Litchfield will look to build on the momentum of the win over the Vandals on Thursday, Sept. 21, when they play at perennial power Pana.

Sept. 14 at Litchfield
 Southwestern 19 24
 Litchfield 25 26
Litchfield Statistics
Service Aces: Annika Rhodes 3, Amy Frerichs 2, Avery Stewart 1, Taylor Bradburn 1, Gina Painter 1. **Kills:** Annika Rhodes 7, Megan Lee 5, Gina Painter 4, Avery Stewart 1, Kendall Stewart 1. **Assists:** Avery Stewart 18. **Blocks:**

Gina Painter 3, Annika Rhodes 3, Megan Lee 1. **Digs:** Amy Frerichs 18, Annika Rhodes 13, Kendall Stewart 8, Alli Frerichs 6, Avery Stewart 4, Gina Painter 3, Megan Lee 1.

Records: Litchfield (6-4, 2-0); Southwestern (1-14, 0-2).

Sept. 18 at Litchfield
 Metro-East Luth. 25 25
 Litchfield 23 19

Litchfield Statistics
Service Aces: Kendall Stewart 2, Alli Frerichs 1, Annika Rhodes 1, Avery Stewart 1, Gina Painter 1. **Kills:** Megan Lee 6, Gina Painter 4, Annika Rhodes 3, Avery Stewart 2, Kendall Stewart 2. **Assists:** Avery Stewart 13, Amy Frerichs 3. **Digs:** Amy Frerichs 10, Annika Rhodes 8, Kendall Stewart 8, Alli Frerichs 7, Avery Stewart 3, Gina Painter 1.

Records: Litchfield (6-5); Metro-East Lutheran (8-12).

Sept. 19 at Vandalia
 Litchfield 25 25
 Vandalia 14 23

Records: Litchfield (7-5, 3-0); Vandalia (5-15-1, 1-2).

Maryville Christian Clips Shorthanded Lancers

A good team and a bad break kept the Lincolnwood soccer team from improving their record on Tuesday, Sept. 19, as the Lancers fell to Maryville Christian by a 3-2 final score.

Break is fortunately too strong of a word as that would have been the worst case scenario for senior Reece Lohman, one of the Lancers' top defenders. Lohman, who broke his hip during Nokomis' track season, had to leave Tuesday's game 10 minutes in after injuring the same hip. Fortunately, there was no break this time, but Lohman will take the rest of the week off to see how he feels going into the final two weeks of the regular season.

The Lions picked up two goals soon after Lohman was relegated to the sidelines and held a 2-1 lead at halftime. Both teams scored in the

second half to account for the 3-2 final score.

Donny Daugherty and Tucker Armentrout had the goals for the Lancers, with Maddux Himes picking up an assist. Carson Contreras and Gabe Armentrout split time in goal, each making two saves.

The loss stings, but the Lancers can take solace in the fact that it broke a two game scoreless streak after back-to-back 0-0 ties to Lutheran and Hillsboro.

Lincolnwood returns home on Friday, Sept. 22, to play Riverton/Tri-City, who are 3-8 this season.

Sept. 19 at Maryville
 Lincolnwood 1 1 - 2
 Maryville Christian 2 1 - 3
Lincolnwood Statistics
Goals: Donny Daugherty 1, Tucker Armentrout 1. **Assists:** Maddux Himes 1. **Goalkeeper:** Carson Contreras (2 saves), Gabe Armentrout (2 saves). **Record:** Lincolnwood (8-2-4); Maryville Christian (6-7).

After playing in an absolute epic match Monday during the inaugural Grace Cup, no one would blame the Hillsboro High School boys soccer team for being mentally, emotionally and physically exhausted.

The Grace Cup had everything a fan could ask for and more in terms of action, near misses, emotional motivation, and, well, you name it. The result was a 0-0 draw between arch rivals, which, if you asked both coaches, each would be honest in saying they were proud to come away with.

But the game was so much more than that. It was a chance to honor a beautiful girl and a beautiful family. It was also a reminder to both squads that sometimes we don't get to make all of the decisions in life. So yeah, no one would blame anyone for not being as motivated for the next day as they were for the prior.

For the Toppers, however, the schedule sets the rules and the orange and black were right back on the pitch less than 24 hours after an

"instant classic". Showing the resilience they have shown all season long, Hillsboro took what went down Monday night and turned it into a follow up 3-0 victory over Staunton on Tuesday, Sept. 19. It wasn't as pretty as the night before, but it got the job done.

When play opened in the first, the Bulldogs seemed to pack their defensive zone and what should have been limiting for the Toppers in terms of offense actually turned out to be the exact opposite as Hillsboro connected dot after dot for decent looks on the Staunton net.

The Toppers would have to wait to finally break through though as each shot seemed to find the hands of the Bulldog keeper but, at the 17:59 mark of the half, one would finally get past in the craziest of ways.

A great play up front by the tandem of junior Clayton Rufus and sophomore Tony White would end up resulting in a corner kick for Hillsboro and sophomore midfielder Mark Mattson would line up for the kick. Mattson's ball

would roll through in front and though the Staunton keeper called his defenders off of the play, he never went to make an attempt at the ball and it rolled into the net to give the Toppers a 1-0 lead.

The miscue would ramp up the Hillsboro offense and they would keep up the attack as great patience with the ball and timely passing allowed the Toppers to keep the ball in the Staunton end for the majority of the half.

With 9:30 left in the first, junior midfielder Brodie Clinard would make a great play up the right side to keep the ball alive before touching off to sophomore Will Yeske alone in front. Yeske would rocket a shot on frame but into the hands of the keeper to end the attack but Hillsboro would make good just a few seconds later as juniors Mitchell Cunningham and Nico Clark would connect after Cunningham showed terrific patience with the ball drawing the defense to him then finding Clark up front.

From there, Clark would place the shot right inside the left post to give the Toppers

a 2-0 lead.

The tandem would very nearly make an identical play on the ensuing possession, but the Bulldog keeper would make an outstanding sprawling save to keep it 2-0 until the break.

When play resumed in the second half, Hillsboro would make adjustments as the wind from the south would play tricks with the ball, but they were still able to keep up the march and Clark would add his second quickly after the beginning of the half to make it 3-0. From there, the Toppers would have chances but nothing would materialize and the score would stay at 3-0.

With the victory, the Toppers improve to 9-3-2 on the season and 3-1 in SCC play. This afternoon, they travel to Pana for a stand alone varsity tilt with a scheduled start of 4:30 p.m.

Sept. 19 at Hillsboro
 Staunton 0 0 - 0
 Hillsboro 2 1 - 3
Goals: Hillsboro - Mark Mattson (unassisted), Nico Clark (Mitchell Cunningham), Nico Clark (unassisted). **Records:** Hillsboro (9-3-2, 3-1); Staunton (5-7, 2-2).



Dragon Softball Players Win Sportsmanship Award

Two Hillsboro Junior High School softball players have been awarded Outstanding Sportsmanship pins by the Illinois Elementary Schools Association for postseason play. Awards were based on overall attitude and effort while playing and toward the other team. At left are regional winners Gillian Smith of Gillespie and Lainey Lessman of Hillsboro. At right is sectional winner Rylee Rogers.

drey, who had four kills, led the team in assists with 22. Defensively, Elvidge had three blocks, with Denney adding two and Cowdrey coming up with one.

Lancers Answer After Close Call With Miners

The Lincolnwood High School volleyball team got a first set wake up call from Gillespie on Monday, Sept. 18, as the visiting Miners picked up a 25-23 win in the opening set. As it turns out, that was plenty of warning for the Lancers, who won the next two sets 25-8, 25-8 to win their 16th game of the season.

Senior Taryn Millburg turned in a solid game both defensively and at the serving line as she led the team in digs and points. Millburg had just one service error in 16 attempts, racking up 12 points and four aces. Defensively, she had 11 of Lincolnwood's 48 digs, with Kierstyn Denney, Taryn Clarke and Morgan Cowdrey all picking up nine digs apiece.

Those three also contributed to the serving game. Denney had nine points and four aces, while Clarke had seven points and Cowdrey had six points and two aces.

At the net, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson sent down eight kills, with Denney and Tori Elvidge backing her with seven and five digs respectively. Cow-

Now 16-2 on the season, the Lancers are off until Monday, for the first of two intra-county games. On Sept. 25, Lincolnwood plays at Litchfield, followed by a trip to Nokomis on Sept. 26, for a game with MSM Conference championship implications.

Sept. 18 at Raymond
 Gillespie 25 8 8
 Lincolnwood 23 25 25
Lincolnwood Statistics
Service Points: Taryn Millburg 12, Kierstyn Denney 9, Taryn Clarke 7, Morgan Cowdrey 6, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 3, Ella Jenkins 1. **Aces:** Taryn Millburg 4, Kierstyn Denney 2, Morgan Cowdrey 2, Ella Jenkins 1. **Kills:** Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 8, Kierstyn Denney 7, Tori Elvidge 5, Morgan Cowdrey 4, Ella Jenkins 3, Camryn Poggenpohl 2, Taryn Clarke 2. **Assists:** Morgan Cowdrey 22, Kierstyn Denney 4. **Digs:** Taryn Millburg 11, Morgan Cowdrey 9, Taryn Clarke 9, Kierstyn Denney 9, Jazmin Seaton-Hobson 6, Camryn Poggenpohl 2, Ella Jenkins 1, Tori Elvidge 1. **Blocks:** Tori Elvidge 3, Kierstyn Denney 2, Morgan Cowdrey 1. **Records:** Lincolnwood (16-2); Gillespie (1-9).

Lady Lancers Take Top Spot At Timber Lakes

The Lincolnwood girls golf team picked up their 14th win of the season on Monday, Sept. 18, at Timber Lakes Golf Course in Staunton.

The Lady Lancers shot a 210 as a team to beat the hosts from Staunton by 10 strokes. Hillsboro, Carlinville and Gillespie also sent golfers to the match, but didn't factor into the team standings.

While Staunton had the top individual performance with medalist Lilly Bandy's 47, the Lancers made up for it with consistency. The top six players for the orange and black were separated

by just four strokes, with all six shooting well enough to post a scoring round for the opposition.

Kaylee Gerlach and Rian Deardorff paced the Lancers with a pair of 52s. Both players had one par in their nine hole round, with Gerlach's coming on the par-3 third hole and Deardorff's coming on the other par-3, the seventh hole.

Jenna Matli also had a par, shooting a four on the first hole of the course. She and Carly Armentrout both shot 53 on the day to account for Lincolnwood's other two scoring rounds. Anna Jones

was a stroke behind them in the fifth spot, with a par on the par-5 second hole, while Abby Norris had the sixth round with a 56.

Emma Bell wasn't able to play for the Hiltoppers, but senior Sam Frailey represented Hillsboro. Frailey shot a 55 on the day, posting four bogeys in her round.

Frailey's next match is Thursday, Sept. 21, in Vandalia, with Litchfield, Greenville and Roxana also in attendance.

Lincolnwood will be at home for their next two matches as they host North Mac on Sept. 21, and Auburn

and Northwestern on Sept. 22, for senior night.

Sept. 18 at Staunton
 Timber Lakes - Par 36
Girls Team Results: 1. Lincolnwood 210; 2. Staunton 220.
Medalist: Lilly Bandy (Staunton) 47.
Lincolnwood (210) - Kaylee Gerlach 52, Rian Deardorff 52, Carly Armentrout 53, Jenna Matli 53, Anna Jones 54, Abby Norris 56.
Staunton (220) - Lilly Bandy 47, Breanna Feeley 51, Madyson Dugger 61, Alexandria Bissonetz 61.
Hillsboro - Sam Frailey 55.
Carlinville - Kristilyn LeVora 49, Gabby Lopez 60.
Gillespie - Hailey Young 65, Emilee Bergen 67.
Records: Lincolnwood (14-3).



Hillsboro Lions Club Donates \$1,000 To Soccer Field

Players and coaches for the Hillsboro High School boys soccer team accepted a \$1,000 donation from the Hillsboro Lions Club on Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 12, at the Hillsboro Sports Complex. With the field lighting upgrades paid for, the donation will be used for other projects planned for the high school soccer field.

In front, from the left, are Tim Hopper, Mason Currie, Chanse Liebscher, Landon Bandy, Isaiah Hopley, Brennan Harston, Tony White, Izac Zerrusen, Nico Clark, Mitchell Cunningham, Abraham Putnam, Beto Quiroz, Noah Andrews and Quinn Hunt. In the back are James Hertel, Randy Leatham, Coach Jason Burke, Kaiden Brown, Dawson Guinn, Jozzie Pineda, Nykolas Pineda, Rhys Riggs, Blake Cullison, Hunter Payne, Mitchell Lowe, Lennon Guinn, Logan Murray, Jaxon Wittenmeyer, Brady Stritzel, Antonio Valentin, Brodie Clinard, Clayton Rufus, William Yeske, Aiden Meyers and Mark Mattson, Ed Kirby, Bill Clinard, Sharon Schoen, Earl Meier, Greg Schoen, Zian Ellis and Assistant Coach Matt Lentz.

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Grace Cup

Continued from 1B

Mattson asked for the wall to be moved back, but by the time the official and the defense were in place, time had run out.

After a conference between the officials, five seconds was put back on the clock and Mattson was allowed to take the kick, which wasn't all that much different than the one he took in Carlinville to give Hillsboro a 2-1 win over the Lancers in the title game of the Kickoff Classic. This time, though, the ball went over the cross bar and the two teams went to the sidelines at halftime with the score still tied.

The second half was more of the same, with both teams getting a few solid chances only to be turned away by the opposing defense, Contreras and Lowe. The play of the game may have been by Lowe at the 20-minute mark of the half. An attempted clearance by the Toppers launched high in the air and back toward

the Hillsboro goal. Lowe was able to get back to his line and out-lead Lincolnwood's Jacob Butler and knock the ball out of bounds.

For a second, it looked as if a penalty might be called on the play, which would have been devastating for the Toppers in the waning minutes of the game. Common sense won out, though, and Lincolnwood took the corner, which Hillsboro defended to keep it 0-0.

As the game wound down, it became apparent that no one was going to score. Not for lack of effort, but maybe for destiny. In the last 10 years, Lincolnwood and Hillsboro have played 21 times prior to Monday. Hillsboro's won nine, Lincolnwood's won eight and four times the two teams tied. That's about as even as a rivalry can get and Mondays game fit perfectly into that.

What it didn't fit into was the plan to award the winning team with the new trophy for the inaugural Grace Cup. No

winner meant no new home for the trophy. So instead, the coaches agreed that it stays at our house until next year (although putting it up for grabs if the two teams met in the sectionals is awfully tempting).

After the game both teams posed for a photo. It was a risky venture considering that they had battled it out for 90 minutes, but in a way it was a perfect ending. Two rivals, who want nothing more than to beat the other, standing side by side for something bigger than themselves. The all-star game may have gone away, but this version of the Grace Cup is a true representation of our journey and the overwhelming support that Mary and I have received from our alma maters and our home towns.

Once all the hugs and thank yous were done, we headed home with the trophy, which now sets on a dresser in Grace's room, waiting to meet next year's winner. But this first year? Grace wins.



Litchfield And Hillsboro Golf

Continued from 1B

Like the boys, the girls' South Central Conference Tournament is scheduled for Sept. 25, at Indian Springs.

Sept. 19 at Hillsboro

Hillsboro Country Club - Par 36
Boys Team Results: 1. Litchfield 160; 2. Carlinville 163; 3. Hillsboro 170; 4. Gillespie 209.

Medalist: Tate Duckels (Carlinville) 36.

Litchfield (160) - Tug Schwab 38, A.J. Odle 39, Sam Schwab 40, Brawly Jacobs 43, Tucker Maguire 45, Ian Otto 45.

Carlinville (163) - Tate Duckels 36, Colin Pope 40, Carter Zilm 41, Aaron Cordani 46, Cade Vinyard 47, Kurtis Killam 55.

Hillsboro (170) - Colton Weiss 41, Tyen Thacker 43, Austin Loskot 43, Carson Walker 43.

Gillespie (209) - Haeden Kellebrew 50, Bryce Buhs 51, Katich 51, Adam Peterson 57, Josh Feeley 59, Owen Schweppe 60.

Record: Litchfield (21-1); Hillsboro (9-3).

Sept. 19 at Hillsboro

Hillsboro Country Club - Par 36
Girls Team Results: 1. Litchfield 248.

Medalist: Kristilyn LeVora (Carlinville) 53.

Litchfield (248) - Kennedy Isaacs 58, Keeley Tabor 58, Aryn Dooley 66.

Hillsboro - Sam Frailey 57.

Carlinville - Kristilyn LeVora 53.
Gillespie - Emilee Bergen 65, Hailey Young 66.

Records: Litchfield (2-9).

It was senior night for the three senior members of the Hillsboro High School golf team as the Toppers hosted Litchfield, Carlinville and Gillespie on Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the Hillsboro Country Club. From the left are Austin Loskot, son of Dennis and Kristina Loskot; Sam Frailey, daughter of Zach and Randi Frailey; and Carson Walker, son of Josh and Krissy Walker.

Journal-News Photo



Colton Weiss shot a 41 to lead Hillsboro in their match on Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the Hillsboro Country Club. The Toppers finished with a 170, 10 strokes behind Litchfield for the top spot and seven behind runner-up Carlinville.

Journal-News/Kyle Herschelmann

Nokomis Volleyball

Continued from 1B

What has been a special season for the Lady Redskins already became even more so on Tuesday as Nokomis handed the Crusaders their first MSM Conference loss in at least 16 years. Lutheran has lost to MSM Conference foe Lincolnwood twice under McCulley, but once was in 2014 when they weren't a member of the conference and the other was Sept. 16, in a non-conference game at the New Berlin Tournament.

And just because the Crusaders are down, for them, slightly this year, having graduated seven seniors off last year's state runner-up team, they still weren't going to let the streak end without a fight.

Playing at Our Saviors Lutheran School in Springfield after a mine beneath their high school campus collapsed and forced the building to be closed, the Crusaders defended their home away from home with a 25-23 win in the first set.

But as the game went on, Nokomis got better. They'd eek out a 25-21 victory in the second set, before pulling away in the third set for a 25-16 win and their 15th victory in 19 games this season.

The Redskins' young front line put up big numbers against the Crusaders as the top four in kills were three sophomores, Addison Glenn, Camryn Engelman and Kinley Stolte, and a freshman, Mackenzie Mehochko. Glenn led the team with 11 kills, while Mehochko also reached double digits with 10. Engelman and Stolte

added six kills apiece, with Stolte dishing out a team-best 20 assists. Becca Hill also had 15 assists and four kills for Nokomis.

Hill's sister Elizabeth and Stolte led the team in serving with eight points each, but Coach Megan Mehochko received contributions up and down the lineup as the Redskins served up 10 aces on the night. Elizabeth and Becca Hill (7 points) both had two aces, while Stolte and Presley Mehochko (5 points) had an ace apiece. Mackenzie Mehochko had a team best four aces for more than half of her seven points, while Grace King added in four points.

Defensively, Nokomis stepped up as well, committing just eight receiving errors in 51 opportunities from Lutheran serves. Both Mackenzie Mehochko and Stolte had double digit dig totals with 15 and 11, while Addison Glenn had a team-high five blocks, with two solos and three assists. Mehochko and senior Reagan Jonas added three blocks apiece, while Camryn Engelman, Becca Hill and Kinley Stolte had two blocks each.

It was an overall complete performance for a program that has grown into one to reckon with over the last few years.

The good news regarding the Redskins' win over Lutheran is that it keeps them undefeated in MSM Conference play, one of just two teams who can make that claim. The bad news? They've only played two conference games.

That means six more conference foes await, including Tri-City (3-13) in their next game tonight, Sept. 21, in Buffalo. The records of those remaining teams vary in their number of wins, but Coach Mehochko's motto of taking it one game at a time should keep the Redskins from looking too far ahead in regards to the conference title picture.

For everyone else the temptation may be too great to avoid circling Sept. 26, on the calendar. On that day, Nokomis plays the other currently undefeated team in the MSM, the 4-0 in conference Lincolnwood Lancers (16-2 overall). Nothing is guaranteed, but the odds of capturing a conference title would surely go up for the winner.

Sept. 19 at Springfield

Nokomis 23 25 25
Lutheran 25 21 16

Nokomis Statistics

Service Points: Elizabeth Hill 8, Kinley Stolte 8, Becca Hill 7, Mackenzie Mehochko 7, Presley Mehochko 5, Grace King 4. **Aces:** Mackenzie Mehochko 4, Becca Hill 2, Elizabeth Hill 2, Presley Mehochko 1, Kinley Stolte 1. **Kills:** Addison Glenn 11, Mackenzie Mehochko 10, Camryn Engelman 6, Kinley Stolte 6, Becca Hill 4, Elizabeth Hill 1, Reagan Jonas 1. **Assists:** Kinley Stolte 20, Becca Hill 15, Grace King 2, Presley Mehochko 1. **Blocks:** Addison Glenn 5, Mackenzie Mehochko 3, Reagan Jonas 3, Camryn Engelman 2, Becca Hill 2, Kinley Stolte 2. **Digs:** Mackenzie Mehochko 15, Kinley Stolte 11, Presley Mehochko 5, Grace King 4, Becca Hill 4, Elizabeth Hill 3, Reagan Jonas 2, Camryn Engelman 2, Maddison DeWerrf 2. **Records:** Nokomis (15-3-1, 2-0); Lutheran (7-11, 4-1).



Kennedi Isaacs shot a 58 to tie teammate Keeley Tabor for the third best round of Litchfield's match in Hillsboro on Tuesday, Sept. 19.

Journal-News/Kyle Herschelmann



Hillsboro's Sam Frailey tries to will her ball a little closer to the hole on the ninth green at the Hillsboro Country Club on Tuesday, Sept. 19. Frailey shot a 57 on Tuesday, which was senior night for Hillsboro.

Journal-News/Kyle Herschelmann

Panthers Get Three Wins, Celebrate Seniors

Sam Schwab shot an even-par 35 to take medalist honors and lead Litchfield to three wins on Monday, Sept. 18, as the Panthers improved to 18-1 on the season.

Schwab had five pars on the day, plus two bogeys and two birdies. The pair of birdies came on the par-3 seventh hole and the par-4 eighth hole as he picked up medalist honors for the second time this season.

Schwab was one of three Litchfield players in the 30s on Monday, with two more missing that mark by one stroke. His older brother, senior Tug Schwab, shot a 38 with six pars and a birdie on the par-5 fourth hole. A.J.

Odle had the other round in the 30s with a 4-over-par 39, with six pars on the day.

Brawly Jacobs and Ian Otto tied for the final scoring round for the Panthers with a pair of 40s. Jacobs had pars on holes two, five, eight and nine, while Otto had pars on the first three holes, plus six and seven. Sixth man Tucker Maguire wasn't far off the pace as he finished with a 44, posting pars on the third, fifth and seventh holes.

Litchfield's team score of 152 was 28 strokes better than that of second place finisher Greenville. Pana finished third, 18 strokes behind Greenville with a 198, while Southwestern added a

201 and finished fourth.

On Sept. 13, the Panthers took time to honor the five seniors on this year's squad. Zach Leitschuh, Brawly Jacobs, Tug Schwab, A.J. Odle and Ian Otto were recognized along with their parents prior to a scramble exhibition match at the Litchfield Country Club.

The group has been one of Litchfield's most successful on the links, with their first South Central Conference title in 13 years and their first state trip since 1990 among their accomplishments last year.

The team will be at the Jerseyville Country Club for their next match as they face

the Panthers of Jersey Community High School.

Sept. 18 at Fillmore

Indian Springs - Par 35

Boys Team Results: 1. Litchfield 152, 2. Greenville 180; 3. Pana 198, 4. Southwestern 201.

Medalist: Sam Schwab (Litchfield) 35.

Litchfield (152) - Sam Schwab 35, Tug Schwab 38, A.J. Odle 39, Brawly Jacobs 40, Ian Otto 40, Tucker Maguire 44.

Greenville (180) - Elusia Golovey 39, Caden Wayman 44, Dustin Rehkemper 47, Jack Workman 50, Cohen Reavis 50, Rowdy Sussenbach 59.

Pana (198) - Ryan Karbach 49, Logan Sims 49, Jacob Dorn 50, Harrison Cauthern 50, Dane Epley 51, Griffin Kimbrell 56.

Southwestern (201) - Ike Austin 46, Ben Biciochi 48, Nic Ragsdale 52, Austin Bates 55, Colton Huber 58, Wyatt Johnson 59.

Record: Litchfield (18-1).



The Litchfield boys golf team celebrated the five senior members of this year's team on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the Litchfield Country Club. From the left are Ian Otto, with parents Gary and Jessica Otto; A.J. Odle, with parents Jim Odle and Amber Odle; Zach Leitschuh, with mom Dee Leitschuh; Tug Schwab, with parents Jenny and Ben Schwab; and Brawly Jacobs, with parents Kerri Bishop and Wade Jacobs.

Vandals Hand Hiltoppers First Loss In SCC Prequel

The Vandalia boys golf team handed Hillsboro their first loss of the season on Monday, Sept. 18, but the Toppers did manage to earn a share of medalist honors for the match.

Shooting a 163, the Vandals beat the Toppers by 14 strokes to move Hillsboro to 8-1 on the season. While the team result ended in Vandalia's favor, the race for the top spot individually came down to Vandalia's Conner McCall and Hillsboro's Colton Weiss. The Vandal's senior ace and the Hiltopper sophomore both shot 1-over-par 37s on the day to share medalist honors, marking the fourth time this year that Weiss had held the top spot at the end of a match.

In addition to Weiss, Carson Walker added in a 41, while Austin Loskot and Tyen Thacker shot 48 and 51 respectively. Vandalia had three rounds in the low-

to-mid 40s on the day, with Jonah Beesley (40), Colton Justice (42) and Owen Halford (44) joining McCall.

The two South Central Conference foes will meet up again on Monday, Sept. 25, for the conference tournament at Indian Springs Golf Club in Fillmore. The Toppers and Vandals have won six of the last seven SCC tournaments, with Hillsboro winning three straight from 2016 to 2018, followed by Vandalia winning in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Litchfield, who returns all six players from last year's team, shot a 315 last year to beat Staunton (336) and Carlinville (348) for the top spot, with Vandalia (357) and Hillsboro (360) finishing fourth and fifth.

Sept. 18 at Girard

Hillsboro C.C. - Par 36

Boys Team Results: 1. Vandalia 163; 2. Hillsboro 177.

Medalists: Colton Weiss (Hillsboro) 37; Conner McCall (Vandalia) 37.

Vandalia (163) - Conner McCall 37, Jonah Beesley 40, Colton Justice 42, Owen Halford 44, Will Calhoun 61, Gabriel Weischedel 64.

Hillsboro (177) - Colton Weiss 37, Carson Walker 41, Austin Loskot 48, Tyen Thacker 51.

Record: Hillsboro (8-1).

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Nokomis FFA Kicks Off Shake The Auger

Members of the Nokomis High School FFA chapter are kicking off their annual Shake the Auger fundraiser this September.

Throughout harvest season, local farmers may donate any amount of bushels toward the Nokomis High School FFA chapter. Sim-

ply mention the amount of bushels to be donated at any participating location.

Local elevators participating in the Shake the Auger fundraiser are M&M Services in Nokomis and Witt, Farmers Grain in Fillmore and Central Commodity in Rosamond.

To share their thanks, members of the Nokomis High School FFA will be providing farmer appreciation snack packs throughout the harvest season.

All proceeds will benefit the Nokomis High School FFA chapter.



Nokomis FFA Wins First In Forestry

Nine students from the Nokomis High School FFA chapter traveled to Beaver Dam State Park in Macoupin County on Thursday, Sept. 14, for the Section 19 forestry competition. Team members brought home bragging rights with a first place finish, and seven of the team members placed in the top ten individually. Pictured above, from the left are Caleb Bauer, Jack Johnson, Mason LaChance, Lizzy Hill, JJ Denby, Bruno Fox, Dolan Harrison, Garrett Engelman and Andrew Suslee.



Litchfield FFA Attends Farm Progress Show

On Aug. 31, 19 Litchfield High School FFA members had the opportunity to experience the Farm Progress Show in Decatur. Members were able to see the newest agricultural equipment and technology, as well as hundreds of agribusiness companies and colleges and universities. They even got to join members of the Staunton High School FFA on a charter bus to the show. Pictured above, in front, from the left are Cale Winstead, Jayden Ellinger, Grason Thimsen, Emma Bone, Georgia Glover, John Stanley, Kennedy Isaacs, Hunter Law, Olivia Sykes, Megan Lee, Hayley Zeller, Amanda Niemann, Garrison Cleaver, Maddy Hampton and Tyler Belusko. In back (on the tractor) are John Stanley, Keeley Tabor, Brevin Birkenkamp, Kamden Marten and Hudson Debarr-Walker.



Farm Bureau Delivers Meals To Farmers

The Montgomery County Farm Bureau and Country Financial representative Cory Evans are partnering to provide meals in the field to farmers in Montgomery County this harvest season. Pictured is Country Financial representative Cory Evans delivering lunch to Tyler Helgen of Helgen Brothers Farm in North Litchfield Township. Field conditions are dry, but corn yields are promising on week two of harvest.

Crop Condition

There were 6.0 days suitable for field work during the week ending Sept. 17. Statewide, the average temperature was 63.9 degrees, 3.2 degrees below normal. Precipitation averaged 0.66 inches, 0.18 inches below normal.

Topsoil moisture supply was rated 19 percent very

short, 49 percent short and 32 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture supply was rated 21 percent very short, 45 percent short and 34 percent adequate.

Corn dented reached 94 percent, compared to the five-year average of 87 percent. Corn mature reached 70 percent, compared to the

five-year average of 46 percent. Corn harvested reached 6 percent, equal to the five-year average. Corn condition was rated 9 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 50 percent good and 5 percent excellent.

Soybeans dropping leaves reached 66 percent, compared to the five-year average of 37 percent. Soybeans harvested reached 1 percent, compared to the five-year average of 2 percent. Soybean condition was rated 8 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 47 percent good and 7 percent excellent.



Lincolnwood Competes In Horse Judging For FFA

On Wednesday, Sept. 6, Lincolnwood High School FFA members took 15 students to horse evaluation judging at Massa Stables in Litchfield. Students judged halter and trail classes, western pleasure, along with showmanship. Lincolnwood's Greenhand team placed fourth overall. Pictured above are members of the Greenhand team. In front, from the left are Jolie Downs, Alleigha Gomez and Noah Snow. In back are Tori Elvidge, Charlie Clavin, Rylan Gorman and Elsa Burenga. Varsity members are pictured below. In front, from the left are Kirsten Pope, Abby Norris, Ellie Nudo and Morgan Hampton. In back are Audrey Germann, Jonah Elvidge, Taryn Love and Emma Horath.

Submitted by Lincolnwood FFA Reporter Morgan Hampton



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Hillsboro FFA Attends Forestry Contest

On Thursday, Sept. 14, members of the Hillsboro High School FFA headed over to Beaver Dam State Park in Carlinville for the Forestry CDE. This popular competition had a ton of attendees. Both sections, 15 and 19, ended up going to the contest. There were five parts of this competition including, tree identification, tool identification, map reading, exam and timber cruising. The Hillsboro chapter placed fourth in Section 19. The highest scoring individuals for the team were Payton Brown, Brekin Swick and Sami Page. In front, from the left are Emily Castillo, Lilly Huber, Kaden Brown, Sami Page, Lassie Cline and Madeline Watkins. In back are Elby Jones, Peyton Brown, Blake Cullison, Trenton Kimbro, Brekin Swick and Mackenzie Jarman.

Submitted by Hillsboro FFA Reporter Milla Anderson

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PUBLIC AUCTION

TUES., SEPT. 26 - Online auction for City of Nokomis liquidation of vehicles & equip. such as lawn mowers, 4-wheeler, snow plows & more at 22 S. Cedar, Nokomis. Viewing at Nokomis City Hall M-F 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Bidding open now at aumannuctions.com. 10% buyers premium.

THURS., SEPT. 28 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends for online only relocation auction. Register/bid at mollettauctions.hibid.com. Preview & pickup at 939 US Rt. 40 Frontage Rd., Greenville. Preview: Sept. 25, 4-6 p.m. Checkout: Sept. 29, 4-6 p.m. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Adam 618-267-3086, Wayne 618-920-6694, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

SUN., OCT. 1 - 7 p.m. Bidding ends for Dale, Jr. and Sarah Williams farmland consisting of 21+/- acres (with 20+ tillable) in Fayette County located at xxx 325 E. Hurricane Township, Bingham. Sold as one. View at will. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

SUN., OCT. 8 - 6 p.m. Bidding ends for online only farmland auction. Located in Macoupin Co., 3.6 mi. W of Hettich on Scottville-Hettich Rd. to Hunter Rd., watch for signs. 46.12 A, tillable-CRP-recreational. Register to bid, view catalog & terms at www.corycraig.com. Justin Releford, owner. Cory Craig, auctioneer, 217-971-4440.

THURS. & FRI., OCT. 12 & 13 - Taking consignments now for lawn/garden, heavy equipment, construction & farm related items such as: tractors, tillage tools, harvest and hay equipment, semi tractors, trailers, mowers, tillers, golf carts, ATVs, tools, etc. By appointment now, call Adam or Wayne. Consignment drop off dates: Sept. 22 & 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 937 US Rt. 40 Frontage Road, Greenville. Mollett Auction Service, LLC, Wayne 618-920-6694, Adam 618-267-3086, auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925, mollettauctions.com, FB Mollett Auction Service.

Don't Miss The Auction! Clip & Save This Directory.

Online Relocation Auction
 ONLINE ONLY! BID NOW thru SEPT 28th 7PM
 Register / Bid at mollettauctions.hibid.com
 Preview & Pickup ON LOCATION AT 939 US Rt 40 Frontage Road, Greenville
 Preview Date: Sept 25th 4-6 PM
 Checkout: Sept 29th 4-6 PM
 Adam 618.267.3086 & Wayne 618.920.6694
auctionzip.com Auctioneer #23925
mollettauctions.com FB Mollett Auction Service

SELMA CAN SELL THAT

6B - Thursday, September 21, 2023



Classifieds

TO PLACE AN AD

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WEB: www.thejournal-news.net

EMAIL: thejournal-news@consolidated.net

Yard Sales
Garage Sales

SAT. Sept. 23, 8-12, 702 Maple St., Hillsboro. Boys newborn - 2T, womens x-small - x-large, men's small - x-large, womens scrubs, toys, shoes, household, misc. Everything \$1 unless marked otherwise.

PLUNKETT'S INSIDE yard sale: Everything 1/2 price EXCEPT what is sitting on hot tub which is 10% off (Christmas decorations, Easter etc.) Everything else must go. Friday 22nd, Saturday 23rd, 8 to 8, 134 N. Broad St. (rear). Rain or shine.

GARAGE SALE: Saturday, Sept. 23, 1605 Seymour, Hillsboro, 8 to 11. Ladies clothes, new crafts, household and more.

Merchandise
Building Materials & Tools

SALE: TABLE SAWS. 217-851-1411

Firewood

FIREWOOD: SEASONED, split, oak, hickory. \$90/ face cord, you haul. Mt. Olive. Bryant. 618-444-3864

Furniture

MATTRESS SALE: Twin mattress \$169, full \$199, queen \$239, Mattress Direct across from Litchfield Walmart. 217-324-3636

Pets & Supplies

YORKIE MALE puppy, shots and vet checked. 217-556-0373

Real Estate

Mobile Homes For Sale

MOBILE HOME for sale: 14X66, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 6 inch walls, must be moved. 618-710-7281

Services

General Services

WEEKLY PIANO lessons, all ages. Christine Jones, 30 years experience. 217-851-2598 (Fillmore) 60 min. \$20, 45 min. \$15.

SEWING MACHINE Repair: John Compton, 217-563-2443, 217-377-5307.

Services
General Services

PRESSURE WASHING, commercial and residential, fence and deck stripping and staining. Insured and bonded. 217-710-9587

Transportation
Automobiles

2006 TOYOTA SOLARA convertible fully loaded, red with black top. 217-259-3063

FOR SALE: 1991 Dodge Daytona Shelby, 83,xxx miles, custom paint. Rare car, only 187 produced. \$3800 OBO. Call 217-710-7319 or 217-710-6384.

www.thejournal-news.net

Club Host Run to Benefit VFW

Gotti's Edge MC will host a ride to benefit the VFW on Saturday, Sept. 23. Registration for the first annual Vet run will be at VFW Post 3912 in Litchfield from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

The ride will stop in Bunker Hill, Cottage Hills, Staunton and will return to Litchfield. All riders must be back by 4 p.m. The cost is \$15 for solo riders and \$25 for couples. Dice rolls will be at all stops.

Food will be served at final stop and there will also be 50/50 drawing and silent auction.

For more information, follow Gotti's Edge on facebook.

American Red Cross Facing National Blood Shortage

The American Red Cross is experiencing a national blood shortage. Fewer donors than needed gave this summer, drawing down the national blood supply and reducing distributions of some of the most needed blood types to hospitals.

Hurricane Idalia further strained the blood supply with blood drive cancellations and reduced blood and platelet donations in affected areas.

Donors of all blood types are urgently needed, and there is an emergency need for platelet donors and type O blood donors to make an appointment to give now to ensure patients across the country continue to receive critical medical care.

When Idalia slammed into the Southeast, leading to widespread power outages, travel hazards and flooding, the storm also forced the cancellation of over a dozen blood drives and caused hundreds of blood and platelet donations to go uncollected. This compounded a shortfall of about 30,000 donations in August. Right now, blood

product distributions to hospitals are outpacing the number of blood donations coming in.

The Red Cross needs blood and platelet donors now.

Schedule an appointment to give by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Blackburn Work-Study Program Ranked In Top Ten

U.S. News and World Report has once again recognized Blackburn College in its annual rankings of the best colleges and universities in the country.

In the publication's 2024 *Best Colleges* guide, Blackburn ranked tenth for colleges that successfully advance social mobility by enrolling and graduating large proportions of low-income and underrepresented students.

Published on Sept. 18, the *Best Colleges* list also placed Blackburn in the top tier of Midwestern colleges with an overall rank of 41.

Considered one of the most comprehensive research publications for students and parents considering opportunities in higher education, U.S. News evaluates more than 1,500 institutions based on 19 measures of academic quality, including educational outcomes and student excellence.

Since its founding in 1837, Blackburn has made college education affordable to thousands of first-generation students and working-class

families. One often federally-recognized work colleges and the only program in the nation managed by students, Blackburn offers work opportunities to all students to help develop critical leadership, problem-solving and management skills while earning a four-year degree.

Blackburn students help plan, manage and run the facilities in 12 student work departments and work alongside Blackburn faculty, staff, and their peers. Blackburn offers a "four-year head start," which means real-world work experience that pays off with resumes attractive to employers across all fields.

Students also earn a \$5,000 tuition credit each year they participate in the work program, which helps keep the cost of a private liberal arts education within reach.

"We take immense pride in our standing among the top institutions in the Midwest," said Blackburn College President Gregory J. Meyer. "Blackburn has a remarkable

capacity to advance social mobility, given the College's longstanding commitment to ensuring low-income and underrepresented communities have access to a transformative education. This ranking reflects our students' determination and resilience in the face of challenges, and we are honored to support them on their journey toward success."

Social mobility is part of U.S. News' outcomes measures to assess how well schools graduated low-income and underrepresented students.

"Economically disadvantaged students are less likely than others to finish college, even when controlling for other characteristics," the guide reads. "But some colleges are more successful than others at advancing social mobility by enrolling and graduating large proportions of disadvantaged students awarded with Pell Grants."

These federal grants are awarded to students whose adjusted gross family incomes fall under \$50,000,

with the majority going to households earning less than \$20,000 annually.

Blackburn College has been ranked as a top performer each year since U.S. News and World Report first introduced its social mobility recognition in 2019.

In addition to the U.S. News *Best Colleges* guide, Blackburn also received recognition from Washington Monthly's 2023 *College Guide and Rankings* for the performance of economically disadvantaged students.

The publication evaluates liberal arts colleges - four-year institutions that award almost exclusively bachelor's degrees and that focus on arts and sciences rather than professional programs, based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility, research and promoting public service. Among nearly 250 bachelor's colleges, Blackburn was ranked first in Illinois and 44 nationally for performance by students receiving Pell Grants.

Title Transfers

September 8

Shannon L. Daniels, Tory J. Daniels to Jacob R. J. Hefley, WD, Pt. SW/NE SEC. 11, Hillsboro Twp.

First National Bank Mattoon Tr. Trust No. 91013 to Aumann Enterprises, Trustee's Deed, Blk. 8, Pt. Blk. 9, Randall & Millers Subn.

Robert M. Ronchetti to Aumann Enterprises, WD, Lots 12-15, Blk. 7, Millers Division, Nokomis, Pt. Blk. 9, Pt. Blk. 17, Randall & Millers Subn.

Anthony White, Sally White to Cheryl Spang, WD, 2 Pts. Lot 1, Blk. 1, Burrs Addn., Litchfield, 2 Pts. Blk. 23, Burrs 2nd Addn., Litch-

field. Parcels 1-4. Linda Joan Bland Tr., Marlin D. Quattlander Tr., Quattlander Trust No. 121623 to Jill R. Quattlander Tr., Marlin D. Quattlander Tr., Quattlander MD & JR Trust No. 030156, Trustee's Deed, NH NW Sec. 7, Nokomis Twp.

Benjamin J. Kenny to Nicholas R. Kenny, WD, Pt. SE/SE Sec. 34, Pt. SW/SE Sec. 35, Pt. SE/SE Sec. 35, East Fork Twp., Pt. Lots 67 - 72, Pt. SH, Lot 73, Traylor's JL Orchard Place, Parcels 1-3.

September 11
Gloria June Everett Estate, Ruth Ann Mize Admin. to Stieren Trucking, Administrator's Deed, Lots 1, 4, 5, & 8, Blk. 18, Harvel Original Town.

Stacey N. Clarke to Stacey N. Clarke Tr. Trust No. 062672, QCD, NE/NW Sec. 9, Nokomis Twp.

Robert J. Clarke to Robert J. Clarke Tr. Trust No. 081272, QCD, NE/NW Sec. 9, Nokomis Twp.

Kara Miller, Gary Reeves, Hazel Reeves to Lynn Eyman, WD, Pt. SW/NW Sec. 19, East Fork Twp.

Bethany Dugan, Michael Dugan, MBM Mini Storage to Litchfield Holdings, WD, Lot 2, Sharp Addn., Litchfield.

Keith Barket, Postal Building & Leasing Company to Connie Haslett, Ronald

Seaton, Corporation Deed, Pt. Lot 11, Blk. 8, Waggoner Original Town.

September 13
Douglas White to Aleksander Brune, Brooke Severtson, WD, Lot 23, Blk. 64, Huggins PC Addn.

Richard Luck to Richard Luck, Teresa Luck, QCD, 2 Pts. NW Sec. 4, Butler Grove Twp.

Donna Elmore Tr., Thomas R. Elmore Tr. to Amber L. Elmore, Walter L. Jarvis IV, Trustee's Deed, Pt. NW Sec. 33, Bois D'Arc Twp.

September 14
Linda Basso Estate, Christina Marshall Admin., Loran Morgan Admin. to Carol L. East, Robert W. East, Administrator's Deed, Pt. NE/SE Sec. 19, Grisham Twp.

Cayla C. Owens, Cayla C. Simonton to Onie M. Burks, WD, Lots 9 & 10, Blk. 6, Hardebecks Subn.

Jane A. Smith, Michael D. Smith to Cayla C. Simonton, WD, Lot 271 & 273, Kort-

September 15

Barry Donaldson Exec., Bess J. Ryan Estate, Donnie Sims Exec. to Brett E. Stokes, Kevin J. Watterson, Executor's Deed, Lot 12, Blk. 9, Nokomis Original Town.

Lester A. Bruns Trust, Michael Louis Coling Tr. to Dennis J. Cole Trust, Toni R. Fish Tr., Trustee's Deed, Lot 98 & 100, Kettelkamps Addn. Continued, Nokomis.

Lester A. Bruns Trust, Michael Louis Coling Tr. to Larry L. Watson, Pamela R. Watson, Trustee's Deed, Lot 102, Kettelkamps Addn. Continued, Nokomis.

James J. Balmer to James J. Balmer, Velvet C. Balmer, QCD, Lot 4, Blk. 1, Culp's Addn., Raymond.

Patricia A. Thomas Brackett, Theola Brackett Jr., Patricia A. Thomas Brackett to Tamala L. Barker Davis, Tamala L. Barker Davis, QCD, Lot 7 & 10, Blk. 2, Tratts 2nd Addn., Litchfield.

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LIBRARY ASSISTANT WANTED
We need someone to work 10-15 hours per week and be available weekdays during the hours of 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and every other Saturday from 9 a.m.-noon.
Must be comfortable working with children, teens and seniors. Required to supervise and participate in programming.
Serious applicants apply at Doyle Public Library. Mail résumé or come in and fill out an application.
Questions: Contact Darcy at 217-229-4471.

VACANCY NOTICE
Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3
Position: Full-Time Classroom Teacher's Aide-Junior High
License: Current Para Professional Certification or willingness to obtain certification with district assistance
Job Description: Working with junior high age children in the classroom
Salary: Teacher's Aide Salary Schedule
Submit Application/Résumé/Transcripts/Certificates/Letters to: Donald VanGiesen; Hillsboro Junior High School; 909 Rountree St.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; Email to: dvangiesen@hillsboroschools.net; Phone: 217-532-3742
Application Due Date: September 27, 2023
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

VACANCY NOTICE
Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3
Position: Full-Time Special Education Teacher - Junior High
Duties: Responsibilities include working with student accommodations, writing IEPs, managing classroom behavior, developing differentiated instruction for diverse needs, teaching/co-teaching in instructional classes and general education classes. Effective communication and strong collaboration skills with other professionals are essential to this position
Qualifications: Illinois Professional Educator's License and LBS 1 Endorsement or willingness to attain
Starting Date: ASAP
Salary/Benefits: Regionally competitive. District paid TRS. Health insurance and tuition reimbursement. Final salary and other potential incentives to be discussed with successful candidate
Submit Application/Résumé/Transcripts/Certificates/Letters to: Donald VanGiesen; Hillsboro Junior High School; 909 Rountree St.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; Email to: dvangiesen@hillsboroschools.net
Due Date: Interviews will begin immediately and continue until filled
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT POSITION
The City of Litchfield is seeking a qualified and motivated Executive Assistant to provide a wide variety of highly responsible and confidential administrative support to the City Administrator's Office.
Major responsibilities for this position will be coordinating and handling administrative details, compiling and preparing reports, handling correspondence, maintaining files, scheduling appointments, assisting in the preparation of agendas and performing other work as required. Responds to and resolves difficult and sensitive complaints and inquiries, acting as first point of contact for correspondence and phone calls, interacts with the public using courtesy and discretion at all times, providing assistance as appropriate in matters needing the attention of the Mayor or City Administrator. Serves as liaison by participating in and providing support to the Mayor, City Council, Committees, Boards, City staff, special projects and programs. Some work during evenings and weekends may be required. The Executive Assistant will be under the direct supervision of the City Administrator.
Bachelor's Degree in public administration, political science, business administration or a related field, and one year in a municipal setting preferred or associate's degree with an equivalent combination of job-related experience considered.
Submit résumé, letter of interest, and 3 professional references to City Administrator, 120 East Ryder Street, Litchfield, IL 62056, by October 13, 2023. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Pro Bilt Buildings, LLC
513 Pipeline Road
Hillsboro
217-532-9331
Help needed in construction of post frame buildings and metal roofing.
Also hiring college-age help
Fill out application at
Pro Bilt Buildings, 513 Pipeline Rd., Hillsboro
—JOB OPENINGS NOW—

VACANCY NOTICE
Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3
Position: High School Assistant/Freshman Boys' Basketball Coach
Qualifications: ISBE certification or IHSA approved coaching certification
Description: Help to organize and manage practices and competitions and fulfill other duties as established by the head coach; promote athleticism and sportsmanship; promote and grow the program; adhere to all IHSA and District rules and guidelines
Salary: Per Teacher's Contract Schedule B
Submit Letter of Interest and District Application to: Patricia Heyen, Principal; Hillsboro High School; 522 E. Tremont St.; Hillsboro, IL 62049; E-mail to pheyen@hillsboroschools.net; Phone 217-532-2841
Due By: September 29, 2023
We do not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap.

Police

Litchfield Police
 • Sara M. Gomez, 42, of Litchfield, was cited for operating an uninsured vehicle at 11:12 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the intersection of Rt. 16 and Madison.
 • Danile D. Ballowe, 26, of Litchfield, was cited for driving on an over a year expired driver's license at 11:56 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at the Van Buren and Tyler intersection.
 • Josey E. Jones, 26, of Litchfield, was cited for expired registration at 8:22 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at the intersection of Rt. 16 and Clinton.
 • Tonya L. Burdell, 39, of Litchfield was jailed for criminal trespassing and disorderly conduct at 6:27 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at the 200 block of E. Buchanan.
 • Emily D. Pickens, 30, of Coffeen, was cited for expired registration at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, at the intersection of Ferdon and Brown.
 • Julie L. Page, 35, of Litchfield was cited for expired registration at 9:44 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, at the intersection of Kirkham and Jefferson.
 • Jaclynne N. Chizewsky, 34, of Litchfield was jailed for possession of meth at 5:37 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, at the 800 block of N. Chestnut.
 • Ashley D. LePage, 34, of Litchfield, was cited on an outstanding Montgomery County warrant at 5:11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Litchfield Police Department.
 • Gavyn B. Lietz, 23, of Litchfield, was cited for operating an uninsured vehicle

and expired registration at 4:59 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at the intersection of State and Tyler.
 • Chloe A. Pyszkowski, 20, of Litchfield, was cited for operating an uninsured vehicle at 9:01 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at 4 Ln. 66.
 • Lindsey M. Belcher, 46, of Irving, was cited for criminal trespass to property at 12:38 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, at 1 Litchfield Plaza.
 • Heather M. Fricke, 44, of Litchfield, was cited for criminal trespass to property at 12:38 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, at 1 Litchfield Plaza.
 • David L. Friesland, 49, of Litchfield, was jailed on an outstanding Montgomery County warrant at 10:36 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, at the 1500 block of N. Madison.
 • Terry Finley, 62, of Litchfield, was jailed for criminal trespass to property, disorderly conduct and animal cruelty at 4:03 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17 at the 700 block of N. Adams.
 • Kelly A. Newingham, 25, of Hillsboro, was cited for operating a motor vehicle under suspended registration at 11:20 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, on Corvette Dr. She was cited for unsafe backing onto a roadway and operating

an uninsured vehicle at 3:52 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, on N. Douglas.
 • Maryann L. VanHuss, 27, of Hillsboro, was cited for expired registration at 3:47 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, on IL Rt. 16.
 • Mason D. Halpin, 23, of Carlinville, was cited for operating an uninsured vehicle and unregistered/ expired registration at 9:49 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, at the intersection of Weir and Ohren.
 • Zachary T. Boston, 19, of Litchfield, was cited for retail theft at 6:45 a.m. Monday, Sept. 18, at Walmart.
 • Shannon M. Becker, 44, of Litchfield, was jailed for criminal trespassing at 10:13 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, at the 100 block of W. Ryder.
 • Charles E. Fredrick, 42, of Litchfield, was jailed for criminal trespassing at 10:13 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, at the 100 block of W. Ryder.
 • Sierra N. Strahan, 27, of Springfield, was cited for driving on a suspended license, failure to wear driver's seat belt and failure to wear passenger's seat belt at 7:49

p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, at the intersection of Columbia and Walnut. She was jailed for possession of meth and possession of drug paraphernalia at 7:49 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the intersection of Columbia and Walnut.
 • Douglas M. Holster, 62, of Litchfield was jailed for criminal trespass to state supported property and resisting a peace officer at 5:19 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the 1100 block of N. Old Rt. 66.
 • Roger L. Perkins, 27, of Litchfield was jailed for criminal damage and resisting arrest at 2:50 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the 200 block of W. Water.

Fire Calls

Downed Powerlines
 Shoal Creek Fire Department responded to downed powerlines in Panama on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 12:03 p.m. Three firefighters were on the scene.

www.thejournal-news.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO HEIRS
 NOTICE is given to the UNKNOWN HEIRS OF OPHELIA NIEMANN, DECEASED, of the proceedings to probate a Will of Ophelia Niemann, deceased, and whose name or address is not stated in the Petition to admit the will to probate and appoint personal representatives, that an Order was entered by the Court on September 7, 2023, admitting the Will to probate and appointing Michael Stratmeyer and Diane Stratmeyer as Independent Co-Executors.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original Order of Admission to probate you may file a Petition with the Court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open Court or other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/8-1) and to contest the validity of the Will by filing a Petition with the Court within 6 months after admission of the Will to probate.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is given of the death of OPHELIA NIEMANN, formerly a resident of Litchfield, Montgomery County, Illinois, on August 25, 2023. Letters

of Office were issued out of the Office of the Circuit Clerk of Montgomery County, Illinois, on the 7th day of September 2023 under case No. 2023-PR-27 unto Michael Stratmeyer and Diane Stratmeyer, as Independent Co-Executors, and whose address is: 679 Airport Trail, Litchfield, Illinois 62056 and whose attorney of record is Stephen R. Cullison of 220 South Main Street, P.O. Box 188, Hillsboro, Illinois 62049. Claims may be filed within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred.

For further information regarding electronic filing of claims contact the Montgomery County Circuit Clerk at the Montgomery County Courthouse in Hillsboro, Illinois.

Michael Stratmeyer & Diane Stratmeyer
 Personal Representative of the Decedent's Estate
 By: Stephen R. Cullison
 Cullison & Vandever
 Law Office
 220 S. Main St.
 P. O. Box 188
 Hillsboro, IL 62049
 Tele: (217) 532-5432
 Registration No. 00555592
 cullisonlaw@consolidated.net
 38-3T

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF WITT (MONTGOMERY COUNTY) EARLY NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROJECT TO BE LOCATED IN WETLANDS
Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023
106 W. Broadway, Suite A Witt, IL 62094-0374
 TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS, AND PERSONS:

As required by Executive Order 11990 this is an early public notice to promote public understanding and provide opportunities for public involvement.

The City of Witt proposes to use funds allocated through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for the following proposed project: City of Witt Sanitary Sewer System Improvements CDBG Public Infrastructure Grant #20-242029. The proposed project, located in Witt, consists of installing approximately 3,200 lineal feet of 10" & 12" sanitary sewer, lining of approximately 4,900 lineal feet of existing 10" & 12" sanitary sewer, construction of 13 manholes, lining of approximately 318 vertical feet of existing manholes, and all related costs in the City of Witt (Montgomery County, Illinois). The project is an irregular bound area that includes: Witt Ave. (North), 400' East of Monroe St. (East), Ford Ave. (South), and 200' East of Main St. (West) [39.17108, -88.37530]. The construction is planned to

begin Summer 2024 and conclude Fall 2024. The total estimated construction cost of \$1,500,000 will be funded as follows: \$1,500,000 - State CDBG Public Infrastructure Grant #20-242029. The wetlands affected includes (but is not limited to) streams and other wetland areas that are located in the City of Witt, Montgomery County.

The City of Witt has determined that this proposed project would occur in wetland areas and the City of Witt must therefore complete an eight-step review. This public notice is step 2.

The City of Witt has additional information on this proposed project that can be reviewed weekdays at the office of Milano & Grunloh Engineers, 114 W. Washington Avenue, Effingham, IL 62401, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Interested persons may also call Mayor Tim Taylor at (217) 594-2814 for additional information about this proposed project. The city is now evaluating potential alternatives, the potential impact of the proposed project, and potential mitigation to minimize wetlands impact.

Written comments on this proposed project are invited and must be received by **Tim Taylor, Mayor, at Witt City Hall, 106 W. Broadway, Suite A, Witt, IL 62094, by October 6, 2023.** All such comments will be taken into consideration by the City of Witt prior to its decision on the proposed project.

Tim Taylor, Mayor
 38-1T

Illinois State Police File Emergency Rule With State

The Illinois State Police (ISP) has filed an emergency rule with the Illinois Secretary of State to implement the Protect Illinois Communities Act.

On Jan. 10, Governor JB Pritzker signed into law Public Act 102-1116 regulating the sale and distribution of assault weapons, high-capacity magazines and switches in Illinois. The act went into effect immediately upon signing.

Individuals who possessed an assault weapon, assault weapon attachment, .50 caliber rifle or .50 caliber cartridge before the act took effect are required to submit an endorsement affidavit through their Firearm Owner's Identification (FOID) Card account prior to Jan. 1, 2024.

A copy of the emergency rule will be posted on the ISP website at www.isp.illinois.gov/Home/AssaultWeapons, but in the interim, can be found in this news release posted on the ISP website.

Individuals can begin submitting their endorsement affidavits online beginning Oct. 1. Affidavits must be submitted online through a FOID Card account. In-

dividuals can access their FOID Card account from the ISP Firearms Services Bureau website, or going directly to www.ispfsb.com/Public/Login.aspx.

If one has forgotten their username or password, links on the login page will help recover or reset the information. The same Firearm Service Bureau links can be used to create an account for those who do not have one. Persons will need an email address, driver's license or state ID, and FOID card to create an account. A tutorial video on how to create an account can be found on the ISP FOID webpage under Application Help.

Individuals who need help submitting an endorsement affidavit can refer to the frequently asked questions page or visit one of the ISP FOID Kiosks, both of which can be found on the ISP website at www.isp.illinois.gov/Home/AssaultWeapons.com. Do not bring a weapon, ammunition or accessories if you visit a Kiosk.

A tutorial video on how to submit an endorsement affidavit through your FOID account will be available on the ISP website by Oct. 1.

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 SECURITY NATIONAL BANK,

Plaintiff,
 vs.
 LAWANA L. ANDERSON, LYLE D. MICHAEL, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
 Defendants.

2023-FC-23
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS and UNKNOWN OWNERS, Defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for foreclosure of a certain mortgage and other relief, as follows:

1. Names of All Plaintiffs and the Case Number: SECURITY NATIONAL BANK, Case No. 2023-FC-23
 2. The Court in Which the Action was Brought: Circuit Court for the Fourth Judicial Circuit, Montgomery County, Illinois.
 3. Name of Titleholder of Record: Lawana L. Anderson and Lyle D. Michael
 4. Legal Description of the Real Estate Sufficient to Identify It with Reasonable Certainty:

TRACT 1
 Lot One (1) in Block Two (2) in Spruill's Subdivision and also of a part of the Northwest Quarter (NW ¼) of the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section Twenty-Three (23), Township Ten (10) North, Range Two (2) West of the Third Principal Meridian, Montgomery County, Illinois, described as follows:

Beginning at the Northeast corner of said Lot One (1) in Block Two (2) above described and running thence South Forty and One-Half (40 ½) feet to the South line of the Northwest Quarter (NW ¼) of the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of said Section Twenty-Three (23), thence East along the said quarter section line Two Hundred Thirty-two (232) feet, thence North Forty and One-Half (40½) feet, thence West Two Hundred Thirty-two (232) feet to the place of beginning, all being situated in the City of Nokomis, Montgomery County, Illinois, except the coal within and underlying the land and all rights and easements in favor of the estate of said coal.

TRACT 2:
 Lot Fourteen (14) in Block One (1) of H.E. Weaver's Addition to Nokomis, situated in the City of Nokomis, Montgomery County, Illinois, except the coal within and underlying the land and all rights and easements in favor of the

estate of said coal.
 5. Common Address or Descriptions of the Location of the Real Estate:

TRACT 1:
809 Capps Ave. Nokomis, IL 62075
TRACT 2:
310 Oberle St. Nokomis, IL 62075
 6. The Parcel Number is:

TRACT 1:
 PARCEL ID#: 08-23-451-014
TRACT 2:
 PARCEL ID#: 08-15-485-013

7. Identification of the Mortgage(s) Sought to be Foreclosed:

TRACT 1:
 (a) Names of Mortgagor: Lawana L. Anderson and Lyle D. Michael
 (b) Name of Mortgagee: Security National Bank
 (c) Date of Mortgage: January 12, 2018
 (d) Date of Recording or Registering Mortgage: January 12, 2018
 (e) County where recorded: Montgomery County
 (f) Identification of Mortgage Recording: Inst. # 201800000202 or Book 1663 at Page 118

TRACT 2:
 (a) Names of Mortgagor: Lawana L. Anderson and Lyle D. Michael
 (b) Name of Mortgagee: Security National Bank
 (c) Date of Mortgage: November 13, 2019
 (d) Date of Modification: August 23, 2021
 (e) Date of Recording of Mortgage: November 15, 2019
 (f) Date of Recording for Modification: September 13, 2021
 (e) County where recorded: Montgomery County
 (f) Identification of Mortgage Recording: Inst. # 201900003564 or Book 1707 at Page 461-474
 (g) Identification of Modification Recording: Inst. # 202100003397 or Book 1762 at Page 315

UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the office of the Clerk of this Court, Montgomery County Courthouse, 120 North Main Street, Hillsboro, Illinois 62049, on or before October 19, 2023, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.

Daniel T. Robbins
 Clerk of the Court

Erik Hyam
IL Bar No. 6311090
Silver Lake Group, Ltd. Attorneys for Plaintiff
314 N. Monroe St. P.O. Box 98 Litchfield, IL 62056
Tel. (217) 324.6147
Fax (217) 324.6249
erik@silverlakelaw.com
 38-3T

PUBLIC NOTICE

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on September 6, 2023, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Montgomery County, Illinois setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: JOSH REAMS AGENCY located at 111 S. PINE ST. in the city of NOKOMIS and state of IL.

Dated September 6, 2023
 Sandy Leitheiser,
 County Clerk
 34-3T*

PUBLIC NOTICE

Central Illinois Storage will be holding a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. **SALE WILL TAKE PLACE AT www.storage-treasures.com.** Property being sold includes all contents in units of the following:

Litchfield
 L71 Carol Reddicks L222 Baylee Stulz
 L288 James Shimchick L245 Jeffrey Dieselhorse
 L299 Morgan O'Brian

Hillsboro
 H23 Ida Siverly H122 Michelle Miller

Taylor Springs
 TS36 Bryan Dobrinic
 Auction (8 units) September 28, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.
Central Illinois Storage, Carlinville, IL 62626 • 217-854-3492

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FIRST NATIONAL BANK of NOKOMIS, a banking corporation, Plaintiff,

v.
BRIAN K. DOOLEY, MARY A. DOOLEY, a/k/a MARY DOOLEY, DOOLEY TRUCK SERVICE, An Illinois Limited Partnership, M & M SERVICE COMPANY, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, 2023FC24

NOTICE OF PENDENCY IN ACTION

NOTICE is hereby given to Brian K. Dooley, Mary A. Dooley, Dooley Truck Service M & M Service Company, Unknown Owners, and Non-Record Claimants, of real estate described in the Complaint for Foreclosure and Other Relief filed in the above-entitled case on September 13, 2023, that they are named Defendants in above-entitled case, that the above-entitled mortgage foreclosure suit is now pending in said Court, that the day on or after which a default may be entered against said Defendants is November 1, 2023, and that the following information applies to the said foreclosure proceeding:

(i) The names of all Plaintiffs and the case number are identified above.
 (ii) The Court in which said action was brought is identified above.
 (iii) The names of the title holders of record

are:
Brian K. Dooley
Mary A. Dooley
Dooley Truck Service
M & M Service Company
 (iv) A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:

The West Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 10 North, Range 1 West of the Third Principal Meridian, Montgomery County, Illinois. (PIN 09-12-300-001)

(v) A common address or description of the real estate is as follows:

Stringtown Road, Rosamond, Illinois

(vi) An identification of the mortgages sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

Name of mortgagor: Brian Dooley
 Name of Mortgage: First National Bank of Nokomis
 Date of Mortgages: May 7, 2015
 Date of Recording & Doc. No: May 11, 2015 - 201500001537
 County where recorded: Montgomery County, Illinois

/s/ **Daniel T. Robbins**
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Beth E. Brotherton
 Reg. No.: 6239045
 BEAVERS, CALVERT & BROTHERTON
 Attorneys for Plaintiff
 221 West Main Cross
 P.O. Box 320
 Taylorville, IL 62568
 Phone: (217) 824-3341
 Fax: (217) 824-3842

38-3T

BUICK
2023 BUICK SUV MODELS

1.9% APR | PLUS UP TO \$1,250 PURCHASE ALLOWANCE*
FOR WELL-QUALIFIED BUYERS. FOR CURRENT ELIGIBLE NON-GM OWNERS/LESSEES

PLUS, NO MONTHLY PAYMENTS UNTIL 2024³

ENCORE GX \$1,250 | **ENVISION** \$750 | **ENCLAVE** \$500

24 Buick Enclave Essence B10440 NOW ONLY \$45,940	24 Buick Enclave Essence B10459 NOW ONLY \$53,775	24 Buick Encore GX Preferred B10408 NOW ONLY \$29,085
23 Buick Encore GX Select B10293 NOW ONLY \$29,090	24 Buick Encore GX Sport Touring B10393 NOW ONLY \$30,415	23 Buick Encore GX Preferred B10395 NOW ONLY \$30,850
24 Buick Encore GX Sport Touring B10400 NOW ONLY \$31,590	23 Buick Envision Preferred B10184 NOW ONLY \$40,285	24 Chevy Silverado 1500 RST B10429 NOW ONLY \$59,365
23 Chevy Tahoe High Country B10450 NOW ONLY \$83,510	23 Chevy Trailblazer RS B10464 NOW ONLY \$29,835	23 Chevy Traverse LS B10473 NOW ONLY \$36,560
23 GMC Acadia SLE B10474 NOW ONLY \$40,195	23 GMC Acadia SLT B10458 NOW ONLY \$45,235	23 GMC Acadia SLT B10439 NOW ONLY \$46,035
23 GMC Sierra 1500 Denali Ultimate B10362 NOW ONLY \$86,640	23 GMC Terrain SLT B10399 NOW ONLY \$36,585	



Quilt Raffle For Coffeen Veteran's Memorial

Lucille Gorsage and Beverly Whalen donated a beautiful handmade quilt made by the late Evelyn Carlock to benefit the City of Coffeen Veteran's Memorial. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, and a winner will be drawn on Monday, Nov. 6. For more information, contact Coffeen City Hall at 217-534-2216.



Justison Shares Lessons With CEO

Tommy Justison of Hillsboro joined students in the Montgomery County CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities) program on Thursday, Sept. 7, to share a wide variety of lessons at CTI in Hillsboro. Justison touched on his experience in real estate, farming, investments, philanthropy and more. He encouraged the team to always stay sharp and do their best in everything they do. "No matter what you do, there is always someone who could come in and do it better. Always be on your A game," Justison said.

Native Seed Collecting Workshop

Visit Bremer Sanctuary on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m., for a native seed collecting workshop. This educational program will teach participants how to collect native wildflower seeds, including when and what to collect, how to store the seeds and when to plant them. The program will begin with an informational video presentation regarding the importance of prairie restoration, followed by a guided hike into the Bremer prairies to collect seeds for use at Bremer late this fall. The public is generally not allowed to collect seeds from the sanctuary, but there will be an exception for this event and attendees may take home a portion of their harvest to start their own pollinator garden at home. Attendees are recommended to bring garden gloves, a pair of strong scissors or clippers, a bucket and water bottle, as well as wear long pants and sturdy shoes and apply bug spray. The event will run in conjunction with the scheduled open house, and be followed by an Owls of Illinois presentation.



Zion Lutheran Remembers Sept. 11

The Kindergarten students at Zion Lutheran in Litchfield, pictured above, were decked out in their red, white and blue in honor of Patriot's Day on Monday, Sept. 11. Then in the afternoon, the chapel families spent time together competing in relay races and celebrating Patriots Day and the blessing it is to be an American.



Memorial Bags Tourney Raises \$500

It was a beautiful day for the fifth annual Jeremie Pasqueno Memorial Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 9, at Walton Park. Between the tournament and the 8-bag Air Mail Challenge, they were able to raise around \$500 for suicide prevention awareness and scholarships in Pasqueno's name. Pictured above are winners of the cornhole tournament. From the left are Zach Braundmeier and Devon Fenton in first place, Marcus Herschelmann and Randy Boden, Sr. in second place and Mikey Davis and Jon McDowell in third place.

ALMOST ON THE LOT ...

24 Buick Enclave Essence, B10481	\$52,375
24 Buick Encore GX Preferred, B10443	\$26,895
24 Buick Envista Sport Touring, B10452	\$28,075
24 Buick Envista Sport Touring, B10444	\$28,900
24 Chevy Equinox RS, B10461	\$33,545
23 Chevy Silverado 1500 RST, B10388	\$60,620
23 Chevy Trailblazer RS, B10460	\$28,215
23 GMC Canyon AT4, B10468	\$52,020
24 GMC Terrain SLT, B10475	\$35,435
24 Buick Enclave Essence	\$51,775
24 Buick Enclave Avenir	\$61,495
24 Buick Encore GX Preferred	\$29,085
24 Buick Encore GX Avenir	\$33,195
24 Buick Envista Sport Touring	\$28,075
24 Chevy Blazer EV RS	\$60,710
24 Chevy Silverado 2500HD Custom	\$57,595
23 Chevy Tahoe Z71	\$71,455
24 Chevy Trailblazer LT	\$25,595
23 Chevy Trailblazer LT	\$25,990
24 Chevy Trax 1RS	\$23,195
24 Chevy Trax Activ	\$26,540
23 GMC Canyon AT4	\$47,950
24 GMC Terrain SLT	\$36,885
23 GMC Yukon AT4	\$76,485
23 GMC Yukon Denali	\$84,305

Steve Schmitt
of LITCHFIELD
217-324-3932 • www.steveschmittoflitchfield.com

Kelly Ondrey General Manager	Rhonda Jurgena Receptionist	Forrest Brake Finance Manager	Ben Ellis Finance/Sales	Trevor Young Sales Manager	Jim Barr Product Specialist	Chris Hallstone Product Specialist

*Length of contract limited. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 10/2/23. **MUST BE A CURRENT OWNER OF A 2009 MODEL YEAR OR NEWER NON-GM VEHICLE OR A CURRENT LESSEE OF A 2018 MODEL YEAR OR NEWER NON-GM VEHICLE FOR AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO NEW VEHICLE SALE. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 10/2/23. **Deferred monthly payments for 121 days. Excludes residents of PA and ME. Must finance with GM Financial. Some customers may not qualify. Down payment required at signing, if applicable. Finance charges accrue from date of financing. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 10/2/23.